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MASSIVE EXPLOSION AT IRANIAN PORT KILLS 5, INJURES OVER 700

A massive explosion rocked a port in southern Iran on Saturday, killing five people and injuring more than 700 others. The explosion was was linked to the shipment of a chemical ingredient used to make missile propellant. The blast at the Shahid Rajaei port happened as Iran and the United States met Saturday in Oman for the third round of negotiations over Tehran's rapidly advancing nuclear programme | P9

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■ U.N. BODY CALLS FOR ACTION AGAINST TERROR BACKERS ■ IRAN PREZ DIALS MODI TO CONDEMN ATTACK

Massacre draws UNSC's strong condemnation

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

THE United Nations Security Council has "condemned in the strongest terms" the brutal terror attack in Jammu and Kashmir's Pahalgam, calling it 'a reprehensible act of terrorism' and stressing the urgent need to bring the "perpetrators, organisers, financiers, and sponsors" of the April 22 massacre to justice.

In a press statement, the 15-member body expressed deep condolences to the families of the victims. "Terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security," the statement read.

The UNSC reiterated that such acts are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of the motive, location, or identity of those responsible adding that the perpetrators must be brought to book.

The members called on all countries to fulfil their obligations under international law and Security Council resolutions by cooperating with relevant authorities to hold those involved accountable.

PAK PM SAYS OPEN TO JOIN NEUTRAL PROBE

Lahore: Pakistan Prime Minister Shehbaz Sharif on Saturday offered to join any 'neutral and transparent' probe into the Pahalgam terrorist attack that killed 26 people

The statement, delivered by the rotating president of the UNSC on behalf of all members—including Pakistan, currently a non-permanent member—highlighted the need to "combat by all means" threats to global peace arising from terrorism, in line with the UN Charter.

India has directly linked the Pahalgam attack to Pakistan stressing on the cross-border linkages to the assault and announced a series of punitive diplomatic and strategic measures. These include suspension of the Indus Waters Treaty, the expulsion of Pakistani military attachés, the immediate closure of the Attari land-transit post and stopping visas to Pakistani nationals.

Reacting swiftly, Pakistan closed its airspace to Indian airlines and halted all trade with India, including through third countries and announced putting on all bilateral agreements in abeyance. Islamabad also termed India's move to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty as a "grave provocation," warning that attempts to disrupt water flows to Pakistan under the 1960 pact would be considered an "act of war."

After the Pahalgam terror strike that killed 26 people—25 tourists and one local—tensions between the two nuclear-armed neighbours have spiked, drawing both international attention and concern.

While the UNSC did not call out Pakistan, the firm language came as a signal of intolerance for cross-border terrorism.

Meanwhile, President of Iran Masoud Pezeshkian dialled Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Saturday and condemned the terror attack in Pahalgam.

Free tea, biscuits, water bottles being distributed in Lal Chowk | ZAHOOR PUNJABI

KASHMIRIYAT MAKES TOURISTS FEEL SAFE

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

WHILE the Pahalgam terror attack has created a sense of insecurity among tourists, several people visiting the Kashmir Valley said they were moved by the support and solidarity extended by the locals, adding that they feel safe in J&K.

Vaishali, a tourist from Delhi, said she is not feeling any tension or fear. "Initially there was fear after the Pahalgam attack. But now we are moving freely without any fear or threat. We visited Gulmarg, Sonamarg and Lal Chowk. People here are very hospitable and helpful," she said. Her family members are also set to visit Kashmir. "We told them that there is no need to worry and the situation is good here. People should not cancel their scheduled visits to Kashmir," she said.

Another tourist, Hemant, said the hoteliers, cab drivers, horse riders all have been very supportive.

Meanwhile, traders in Lal Chowk distributed free refreshments and food to tourists as a goodwill gesture.

Pak resorts to firing along LoC

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

THE Army has been put on high alert to deal with any exigency at the Line of Control (LoC) in Jammu and Kashmir as tensions flared up at the border on Saturday after Pakistani troops fired at Indian posts in many sectors in Kashmir for the second successive night.

A defence official said on the night of April 25-26, Pakistani troops breached border ceasefire agreement and carried out unprovoked firing from multiple posts across the LoC in Kashmir. "Multiple Indian posts were targeted by the Pakistani troops. Indian troops responded appropriately...," he said. There were no casualties or injuries, an officer said. The firing on Indian army posts has come days after militants attacked tourists at Baisaran meadows in Pahalgam.

On Saturday, banned terror outfit The Resistance Front (TRF), a proxy for the Pakistan-based Lashkar-e-Toiba (LeT), after initially taking the responsibility, issued an online statement denying its involvement in the terror attack. Sources said the TRF denial has come under pressure from the Pakistani establishment and in view of the protest by Kashmiris.

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REST IN PEACE

Pope Francis' coffin is carried in front of dignitaries, including US President Donald Trump, at his funeral in Vatican on Saturday | AP | P9

HC issues notices to state govt, KEA on janivara row

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court issued notices to the state government and Karnataka Examination Authority (KEA) on a petition that students were forcibly made to remove their sacred thread (janivara) before writing the Common Entrance Test (CET) this year.

The division bench of Chief Justice NV Anjaria and Justice KV Aravind heard the public interest litigation (PIL) filed by Raghunath, president of the Akhila Karnataka Brahmana Mahasabha, on Saturday.

The petitioner pleaded before that necessary orders be given to conduct CET again for those students who were not allowed to appear for the test. They argued that the action of the respondents (state government and KEA) is violative of fundamental rights of the students.

The petitioner said the CET for various professional courses was held across the state on April 16 and 17. Before entering the examination hall, students were checked and those who were wearing the sacred thread were forced to remove it. In some extreme cases, the janivaras were cut, despite the students protesting, the petitioner said.

Those who refused to remove it were denied the opportunity to write the test. Such incidents reportedly occurred in Bidar, Shivamogga, and Dharwad districts, the petitioner claimed. CONTINUED ON P5

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Ritu: Vasantha • Masa: Chaitra • Paksha: Krishna • Tithi: Amavasya 1.11 am
Nakshatra: Ashwini 12.56 am • Moon in Vrishabha Rashi • Rahukaala: 04:30 pm to 06:00 pm
Gulikakala: 03:00 pm to 04:30 pm • Yamaganda: 12:00 pm to 01:30 pm

WEATHER
MIN 22°C | MAX 35°C
FORECAST: Cloudy

Sunrise 06.00 am
Sunset 06.34 pm
Moonrise 05.18 am
Moonset 06.11 pm

After TN, docs urge state to ban raw egg mayonnaise

RISHITA KHANNA @ Bengaluru

AFTER Tamil Nadu classified mayonnaise made with raw eggs as a "high-risk food" and imposed a one-year ban over salmonella infection concerns, health experts have urged the Karnataka government to take similar action. Raw egg mayonnaise can carry Salmonella bacteria, leading to food poisoning. The infection, in severe cases, can even spread to the bloodstream and become life-threatening.

What prompted the Tamil Nadu Food Safety and Drug Administration Department (FDA) to act was the rising risk of Salmonella infections linked to the use of raw eggs in mayonnaise. In response, FDA banned 'manufacturing, processing, storage, and sale' of mayonnaise with raw eggs across Tamil Nadu. The ban, issued under section 30(2)(a) of the Food Safety and Standards Act will come into effect from May 8 and will remain in force for a year. As per the Tamil Nadu gazette notification, mayonnaise made with raw eggs is classified as a high-risk food.

However, Karnataka FDA officials told TNIE that before deciding on further action, they will review the basis of Tamil Nadu's ban.

Health experts warn that mayonnaise made with raw eggs can pose a serious health risk because raw eggs may be contaminated with Salmonella, a harmful bacteria that causes salmonellosis, a common type of food poisoning.

"When someone consumes food contaminated with Salmonella, the bacteria travel to the intestines and can cause symptoms like diarrhea, fever, stomach cramps, nausea, and vomiting within a few hours to a few days. In some cases, the infection can be more severe and spread from the intestines to the bloodstream, requiring hospitalisation and sometimes leading to life-threatening complications," Dr Aditya Chowti, Director of Internal Medicine and Diabetology at TriLife Hospital explained. Dr Chowti added that as mayonnaise is often stored for long periods and served cold, it provides a moist, protein-rich environment where bacteria like Salmonella can multiply if not properly handled or refrigerated.

Bharathi Kumar, Dietician at Fortis Hospital highlighted that Salmonella bacteria are typically found in the intestines of animals and birds, and eggs can become contaminated either through the shell or internally before the shell formation. "When raw eggs are used in foods like mayonnaise without any cooking process to kill the bacteria, they become a direct route for infection. Unlike cooked foods, which reach high temperatures that destroy harmful microbes, raw egg-based products carry a much higher risk of bacterial survival and growth," Dr Bharathi said, adding that mayonnaise is often made in large batches and stored at room temperature in many commercial settings, further increasing the chance for bacteria to multiply.

Dr Bharathi stressed that infections can spread not just through consumption, but also through cross-contamination — if kitchen surfaces or utensils used with raw-egg mayo are not cleaned properly, they can transfer bacteria to other foods.

BBMP associated with B.PAC volunteers clean the stretch from Domlur flyover to Ejipura on Saturday

BBMP CLEARS 930 GARBAGE BLACKSPOTS, OVER 600 MORE TO GO

BSWML officials say 6,200 metric tonnes of waste cleared since drive started on April 21

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

THE Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike's (BBMP) Bangalore Solid Waste Management Limited (BSWML) has managed to fix 930 garbage blackspots out of 1,533 from BBMP's eight zones. Ramamani, Chief Operating Officer (COO), BSWML said that starting April 21, they cleared 6,200 metric tonnes of waste from blackspots, and the stakeholders have also been asked to keep an eye on these spots to ensure they are not dirtied again.

The BSWML officials along with contractors also engaged in removing Optical Fiber Cables (OFC) from street corners and from trees in some places as part of the drive, as the entangled cables are creating inconvenience to the public, walkers and motorists.

On Saturday, the BBMP associated with the Bangalore Political Action Committee (B.PAC), cleaned a long stretch from Domlur Flyover to Ejipura in Shanthinagar and fixed the garbage blackspot, similarly, the BSWML officials along with volunteers cleaned a street near St Aloysius College near Cox Town in CV Raman Nagar.

Assistant General Manager of BSWML Ravi Kumar said, three compactors of waste including debris were cleared between Domlur Flyover to Ejipura. The cleaning activity will also be carried out on Sunday.

Managing Trustee, CEO, B. PAC Revathy Ashok lauded the BBMP's initiative and at the same time expressed concern over shortage of staff and night patrolling by BBMP marshals.

"In just one stretch, 80 pourakarmikas were deployed. There is a shortage of pourakarmikas in BBMP," said Ashok.

She also raised concerns of the absence of night patrolling which many believe is leading to illegal dumping of garbage, construction debris and others. "There is a need for nighttime and early morning patrolling. During the marshal movement in the morning, people fear to dump waste on the roadside and in open places. The dumping happens post 10 pm at night at some places and early morning before 6 am. Such offenders should be caught and penalised," she opined.

BMTC e-bus drivers to get special training

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

EVERY Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) commuter would have had a bad experience due to the abrupt braking, falling on his/her fellow passengers, or hurting themselves by hitting the metal rails or falling down in the e-buses at least once.

Ever since the bus corporation started adding e-buses to its fleet, the issue of abrupt braking, very quick acceleration and deceleration has been making the passengers lose their balance. There are instances where the e-bus drivers were given an earful by the passengers. Flooded with such complaints, the BMTC had no choice but to address them.

"Drivers for the e-buses are provided by the private companies that operate them. We asked them to train the drivers on smooth braking and gradual acceleration," Chief Traffic Manager G T Prabhakar Reddy said.

He said that the majority of the drivers would have had the experience of running diesel buses previously , and getting accustomed to e-buses will take time. "After we issued an advisory to the private companies to improve braking along with accelerations, things have improved. From the past few weeks, the number of complaints we receive has drastically come down," Reddy said.

Advertisements are one of the major sources of non-ticket revenue for BMTC | SHASHIDHAR BYRAPPA

FULL-WRAPPED ADs ON BMTC BUSES CONFUSE COMMUTERS

AKNISREE KARTHIK @ Bengaluru

WHILE the Bangalore Metropolitan Transport Corporation (BMTC) has permitted full wrap advertisements in its buses, commuters, especially the elderly, complain that they aren't able to quickly identify their buses. Also, they say they unable to find their stops and get down easily, as the side panels of the buses are also wrapped with advertisements.

"Earlier, it was easy for me to identify the buses. But for over a month, I have been struggling to identify buses and have missed them as the whole bus is wrapped with advertisements," said Malathi, who works as house-keeper, a regular BMTC commuter.

She also said that earlier it was easy to know where the bus was travelling and when they should be ready to get down. "But as the regular BMTC buses are pasted with advertisements even on the side panels of the bus, those who travel by standing find it difficult to know if their stop is approaching soon", she added.

Many elders who are sixty years and above and use BMTC regularly, complain that they unable to differentiate the buses from private buses and said it was because of the full wrap advertisements. The bus corporation decided to wrap around 3,000 buses, including the Vayu Vajra buses, with advertisements to increase revenue. Some complain that these full bus advertisements are an eyesore and a visual pollution in the city.

"BMTC buses are all over the city. At every traffic signal, I see the full bus advertisements. While we understand that revenue generation is needed for BMTC, these kinds of full wrap advertisements are an eyesore in Bengaluru, a city with international repute. They can still earn revenue through advertisements, but not this way," suggests Harish Kumar, a bank employee.

"Advertisements are one of the major sources of non-ticket revenue to BMTC. While we were permitting advertisements on the back panel of the buses, the full wrap adverts are new and fetch more revenue," said a BMTC official. He added that other bus corporations in India, too, have opted for full wrap advertisements.

"Advertisements on the side panels of the buses are 'see-through', while the rest of it is made of vinyl. The main condition laid down is that these advertisements should not in any way block the bus signages, the front and back lights, depot numbers, vehicle registration number and others", he said.

EXPRESS READ

Pahalgam attack: IISc students, staff protest

Bengaluru: The Indian Institute of Science (IISc) community held a condolence gathering to mourn for the victims of the Pahalgam, Jammu & Kashmir, terror attack on Friday. According to the official release issued on Saturday, the condolence gathering was held inside the campus with over 700 students, faculty, alumni and staff members. The vigil was an initiative by the IISc students aimed at expressing sorrow and condemning the act of terrorism. The attendees expressed their condolences and showed that they are united with the government during this tragic time.

REVA hosts 'Vishwa Samvada 2025'

Bengaluru: REVA University hosted 'Vishwa Samvada 2025' on April 23 and 24 — a two-day 'India-Taiwan dialogue: Exploring Vistas for cooperative agendas' aimed at strengthening partnerships between the two nations. The event was held in collaboration with Taiwan's Prospect Foundation and brought together experts from both countries to discuss key global and regional issues. REVA University Chancellor Dr P Shyama Raju said the event was an important platform to build stronger ties between India and Taiwan and promote long-term cooperation.

'Skill-based edu must to enhance employability'

Bengaluru: Engineering degrees alone are no longer sufficient in today's competitive job market, students must also pursue skill-based education to enhance employability, said S. Vidyashankar, Vice Chancellor of Visvesvaraya Technological University. At the annual cultural program by SJB Institute of Technology, Vidyashankar said, "You don't become an engineer just by enrolling in an engineering course. Skill education is essential. That's why we've introduced various skill-based programs at VTU. We've even developed a technology to assess these skills."

EPFO Karnataka head-office Bengaluru celebrated 134th birthday of Dr BR Ambedkar with Regional PF Commissioner -I Shri Mihir Kumar and Secretary Jayshankar M

Tech leaders chart roadmap for future cities

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

TO build smarter and more inclusive cities, over 35 tech leaders from sectors including AI, quantum computing, property technology, construction, and air quality gathered on Saturday for the CXO Roundtable on 'Technologies for Future Cities'. The discussion brought together experts to explore collaborative solutions and stressed the need of using emerging technologies to tackle urban challenges.

Jose Jacob Kalayil, Chairman of Future ICT Forum and TIA Summit, stressed the need for interdisciplinary efforts for urban problems. "Collaboration and an interdisciplinary approach are critical to building cities of the future. Bengaluru can lead as an innovation playground for solutions the world can adopt," Kalayil said, urging tech leaders to create an innovation-driven sustainable future for our cities.

Key highlights from the roundtable included human centric innovations and urban mobility, among other topics.

Venkata Subbarao Chunduru, Director at Arcadis IBI Group, shared how AI-driven

Experts discuss tech solutions during the CXO Roundtable on Saturday

traffic signal management in Bengaluru has led to a 50% improvement in ambulances reaching their destinations on time while MN Anucheth, Joint Commissioner of Police (Traffic), announced that AI camera coverage will be expanded from 50 to 500 junctions under Safe City project. He explained how the new Actionable Intelligence for Sustainable Traffic Management (ASTraM) smart traffic engine is providing actionable insights to ease congestion.

Ramin Massoumi, Global Director of Intelligent Mobility Services at Arcadis, stressed that every advancement in AI, Digital Twins, or Cybersecurity must be rooted in the goal of improving quality of life. "Those who lead with 'Why' will not just build smart cities, but truly transformative ones," he said.

WORTHLESS SLICE

Sweet turns sour: Mango farmers stare at losses after rain damages crop

GAYATHRI KURUP @ Bengaluru

MANGO farmers in Karnataka are facing a backlash once again due to bad weather. Though the yield is comparatively better than last year both in terms of quantity and quality, a majority of their crop is damaged, leading to losses.

"This year, the mango buds were damaged due to the harsh winter heat in January and February. And when it started getting better, the sudden rain damaged the crops further," shared Ajith Raj, a mango farmer from Gaurbidanur.

The fluctuations in the crop yield is not new to them, "It's always unpredictable," says Yeshwanth, a mango farmer from Kolar. "But the backlash everytime affects financial stability. Especially small-scale farmers who depend entirely on their mango yield," he adds.

Farmers like Yeswanth thus sometimes shift to tomato and beans in order to adjust with the mango yield fluctuations. "Mango farming is like gambling," he exclaims. "You don't know what will happen, sometimes it might be going well, but suddenly you would be at a loss. But we are farmers, it is our profession, we cannot abandon it due to loss," he said.

Farmers like Yeshwanth who are financially stable are able to meet the ends during such situations. But it's the small scale farmers who always end up in trouble. "Small scale farmers cant leave farming because that's the only job they know, they are farming for a very long time and situations like this put them in big trouble," shares Bhaskar Reddy, a Mango farmer from Kolar. Moreover, these small scale farmers cannot replace their mango crops with others as their economic instability refrains them from shifting to a new crop, which includes a lot of money investment in terms of planting new saplings, wages for workers etc.

With summer in full swing, sellers arrange mangoes at Jayamahal Main Road in Bengaluru | ALLEN EGENUSE J

The farmers claim that they are often taken advantage of by the 'mango mandis'. "The mandiwalas buy from us in bulk at a cheaper price and sell it to the customers at a much higher price, leaving us with a very small amount amidst the loss we are facing," shares Bhaskar.

"I sell my crops for Rs 25 to 30 per kilo, whereas now the market price of 1 kg mango is Rs 140," he adds. "Due to these Mango Mandis, most of the farmers are shifting to totapuri mangoes from which a lot of juice can be extracted. The farmers directly get in touch with the juice factories and end up getting a higher profit. If the situations remains the same, one day you won't have any mango varieties left apart from Totapuri," exclaims Yeshwanth.

"Government should come forward and help us in this situation," says Yeshwanth. He requests for a minimum price for the mangoes for which the Mango Mandis must pay the farmers. "We are taken advantage of and when asked for more money they are not ready to take our mango , thus finally accepting the offer," he adds.

"Many times, when the farmer's are in a desperate need for money, they end up taking a huge amount of money from the Mandis, which ends us in a tender with the Mandi owners," shares Krishna Sagar Reddy, a mango farmer. "Thus I directly sell my goods through government portals, where I can sell my crops at a good price," he adds.

The farmers also request the government to increase the insurance amount, as most of the time the insurance money does not payback for the losses they have faced. While slogans like Jai Jawan and Jai Kissan are said, many times it just becomes a phrase of fascination. Sometimes mango tastes like exploitation and being forgotten.

Belagavi police arrested three individuals, including a minor, in connection with the murder of a 52-year-old Anjana Daddikar of Belagavi. The murder took place at her residence, where the accused also looted gold ornaments worth Rs 1.70 lakh. According to police, the accused Jyoti Bandekar, her daughter Suhani Bandekar, and a minor boy plotted the crime after the victim had frequently demanded to repay a loan

ED ARRESTS CON WOMAN WHO POSED AS DyCM'S SISTER

Booked under PMLA, agency raided 14 locations linked to Aishwarya

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Directorate of Enforcement (ED), Bengaluru zonal office, arrested con woman Aishwarya Gowda on April 24 under the Prevention of Money Laundering Act (PMLA). She was produced before the special court (PMLA) and was remanded to ED custody for 14 days.

Aishwarya had allegedly posed as Congress leader DK Suresh's and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar's sister to gain access to wealthy people, including several doctors and businessmen.

In an official release on Saturday, the ED stated that they had conducted search operations at 14 locations related to Aishwarya and her accomplices on April 24 and 25 under the provisions of PMLA. "During the searches, various incriminating documents related to money laundering activities through movable/immovable properties and other digital devices have been found and seized. In addition to the evidence, the Proceeds of Crime in the form of cash of Rs 2.25 crore was also found and seized," it stated.

Earlier, ED had initiated investigation on the basis of multiple FIRs registered by various police stations in Karnataka against Aishwarya, her husband Harish KN and others under various sections of Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Bhartiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita (BNSS). "In the FIRs, it is alleged that Aishwarya, Harish and others had entered into a criminal conspiracy to defraud and cheat several individuals by taking gold, cash and funds through bank accounts from them, promising a high rate of return. However, the accused neither returned the money nor gave the promised return. They also threatened the investors with dire consequences if the matter is further pursued by claiming her proximity to various high-profile politicians," the ED added.

Aishwarya's custodial interrogation and investigation are in progress.

> **In FIRs, it is alleged that Aishwarya, Harish and others had entered into a conspiracy to defraud and cheat several individuals by taking gold, cash and funds through bank accounts from them**
>
> Enforcement Directorate

Police book Jeeni MD in sexual assault case

Tumakuru: The Kallambella police in Sira taluk have booked Dilip Kumar, managing director of the popular 'Jeeni' brand of millet powder, a food supplement, on charges of sexually assaulting a woman employee. In a police complaint, the woman alleged that Kumar had been making advances for several months and recently tried to assault her sexually in a shed at the factory's unit at Yarragunte. A police team visited the spot. Following the complaint, Kumar, who is also vice-president of Ratnasandra gram panchayat, has gone into hiding. In a press release, he said, "My political rivals hatched a conspiracy against me and I will overcome it."

HEALTHCARE BOOST

AICC president Mallikarjun Kharge inaugurates the inpatient building, along with a PG hostel for women, at Dr BR Ambedkar Medical College and Hospital in Bengaluru on Saturday| ALLEN EGENUSE J

Techie arrested for assaulting woman

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

A 41-year-old software engineer was arrested for harassing a forcing a 21-year-old woman and forcing her into a relationship. On April 8, he allegedly assaulted the girl and her male friend with a paper cutter near Deve Gowda petrol bunk in Banashankari before fleeing the scene. The accused has been identified as Srikant, a resident of Kamalanagar, Basaveshwaranagar, who works at an IT firm.

According to the police, the woman was a tenant at Srikant's house in Kamalanagar about a year ago. Despite being married, Srikant persistently harassed her. She had even informed his wife about the incident. Although she planned to file a complaint against him at the Basaveshwaranagar police station, no case was not filed at that time, and the police only warned Srikant before letting him go.

30-year-old man stabbed to death after brawl at bar

Bengaluru: A 30-year-old mechanic, Suresh, was stabbed to death in front of his wife at their house in Bannerghatta, on the outskirts of the city, late Friday night. The victim had allegedly argued with a group of people at Tharangini Bar in Shanubhoganahalli earlier that evening. According to the police, the murder is suspected to have been a fallout of the argument. Suresh, a resident of Kenchagainanadoddi, was at the bar with his friends around 10 pm when he got into a verbal altercation with the main accused, Kantharaju, over talking loudly. Both were pacified by others at the bar. However, while Suresh was returning home, Kantharaju and his associates allegedly followed him. They attacked Suresh in front of his wife, stabbing him with a knife. He was rushed to a hospital but succumbed to his injuries. The Bannerghatta police have registered a case based on a complaint by the victim's wife.

HC DISMISSES RANYA RAO BAIL PLEA IN GOLD SMUGGLING CASE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Karnataka High Court on Saturday dismissed the bail petitions filed by actress Harshavardhini Ranya alias Ranya Rao and co-accused Tarun Konduru Raju, who were arrested by the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) in connection with a gold smuggling case. Justice S Vishwajith Shetty dismissed their pleas, though the detailed order is yet to be made available.

The court had reserved its order earlier this week after hearing the parties. Earlier, the special court for economic offences and the sessions court had also rejected the bail petition filed by Ranya.

Meanwhile, the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities Act, 1974 (COFEPOSA), has been invoked against Ranya. The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB), a nodal agency under the Ministry of Finance, invoked the COFEPOSA Act against her and other accused as per the recommendation of the Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI), which is probing the case. The DRI had seized gold bars worth Rs 12.56 crore from Ranya at Kempegowda International Airport in Bengaluru on March 3. Later, Tarun was arrested in connection with the case. Both are currently lodged at the Bengaluru Central Prison in Parappana Agrahara.

Ex-cop Anupama alleges PFI role in OP murder

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mangaluru

ANUPAMA Shenoy, advocate and former DySP, on Saturday alleged the role of banned outfit Popular Front of India (PFI) in the murder of former DGP and IGP Om Prakash and demanded a probe by the National Investigation Authority (NIA).

Addressing a press conference in Mangaluru, Shenoy said, "Pallavi, wife of late Om Prakash, has been falsely booked as an accused by Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Home Minister G Parameshwara with an intention to appease minorities. The role of Assembly Speaker U T Khader and another politician must be probed in this regard. Pallavi in a WhatsApp group has mentioned about Om Prakash having PFI links which should be investigated. There should be a probe on Om Prakash's links with the PFI post-retirement. There should be a probe into whether banned outfit PFI members are being recruited into the police department. There should be a probe whether there was pressure to recruit PFI members into the department when Om Prakash was the DGP."

"There is a lot of discussion on the mental health of Pallavi and her daughter Krithi. The present investigation is going on as per the orders of CM Siddaramaiah and Home Minister G Parameshwara. It is reported that Pallavi has confessed that she has murdered her husband and also sent a message saying "I have killed the monster" to an officer's wife. Pallavi has also claimed that her daughter Krithi has no role in the murder yet. There is no eyewitness for the murder nor there is any CCTV footage. Pallavi has been made an accused only based on her statement. I suspect PFI members might have killed Om Prakash and forced Pallavi to confess and ask her to send a message to the wife of a police officer by threatening to kill her and her daughter," she demanded.

EXPRESS READ

DRI seizes 4.2 kg of crystal meth

Bengaluru: The Directorate of Revenue Intelligence (DRI) sleuths arrested a foreign female national for carrying drugs. Officials seized 4.2 kg of crystal methamphetamine, valued at around Rs 8.5 crore. Acting on a tip-off, the foreign national was apprehended near Electronics City on Thursday. During checking, DRI officials found 4.2 kg of a white crystalline substance concealed in two packets of corn flakes. According to a press release, she was also found to be overstaying in the city after her visa expiry.

Man, daughter drown in lake

Chikkaballapur : A man and his daughter drowned in Koti Halli Kere under Siddlaghatta police on Friday evening. The bodies were retrieved late in the night. According to the police, the deceased have been identified as Nagesh (48), a farmer, and his daughter Dhanu Sri (13), a grade 6 student. As summer holidays are underway, Dhanu Sri had accompanied her father for agricultural activities. While returning home, she went to wash her legs in the lake where she slipped and started to drown. Her father who rushed to her help too drowned.

Britannia Industries Limited

Notice inviting for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) Implementation as defined under PWM Rules 2016

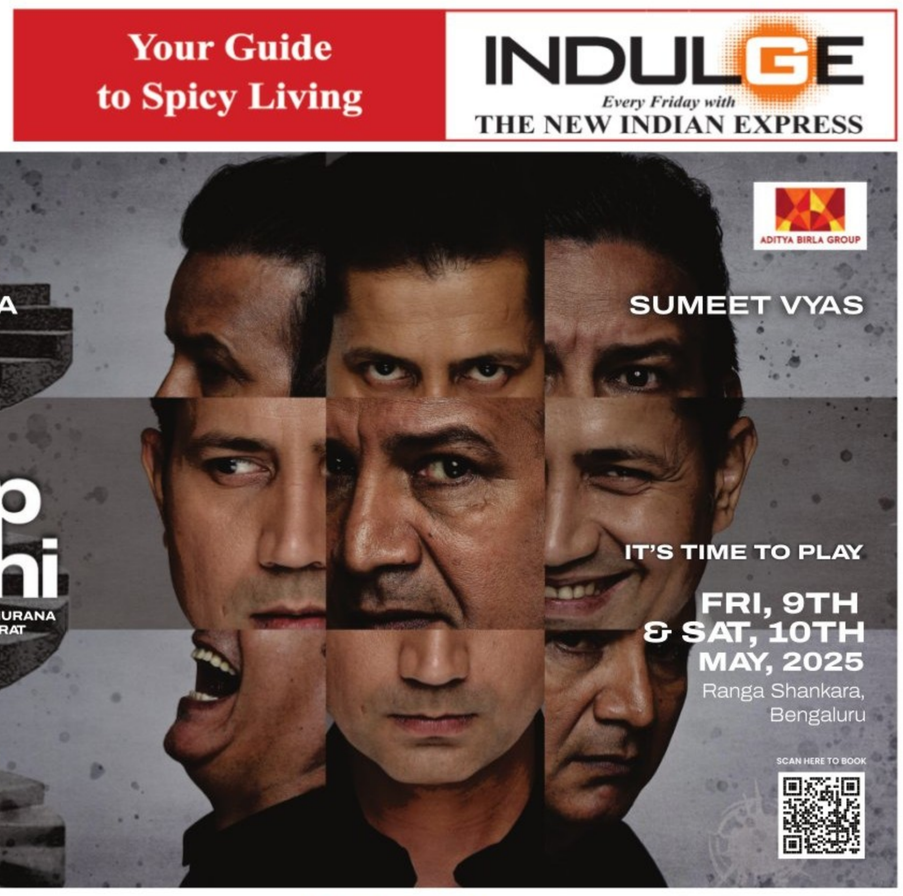
Britannia Industries Limited (BIL) is in the process of inviting tender from the interested waste management agencies for the implementation of the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) action plan across India, as defined under Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016 and CPCB SOPs / Guidelines notified from time to time.

Interested parties are requested to send their State/UTs wise quotations (Y2025-26), where ever they have proper SPCB/ULB consents and PWPs agreements along with their EPR Registration Certificate.

Please send your quotations in a sealed envelope clearly indicating on the face of the envelope "Expression of interest for EPR implementation" to the below address within next 10 days from the date of publication.

Scientific & Regulatory Affairs (SRA), Britannia Industries Limited
R&D Centre, Plot No. 23, Bidadi Industrial Area,
Bidadi- 562 109 Dist. Ramanagaram (Karnataka)

The aforesaid is only an invitation to express interest for participating in EPR implementation and BIL at all times reserves the right to adjourn / postpone/ cancel the whole process and/or to reject any or all the tenders received, at its sole discretion without assigning any reason whatsoever.



Taken serious exception to minister Santosh Lad's criticism of the Narendra Modi government in the wake of the Pahalgam terror attack, BJP MLA Mahesh Tenginkai said, "It's ridiculous that Lad, who fails to understand that the Congress is the root cause of all problems in Kashmir, is now demanding PM Modi's resignation over the Pahalgam attack."

Don't know exact number, we are collecting information now, even students have to leave: Parameshwara

Won't back war, will ask Pakistanis to leave: CM

Chief Minister Siddaramaiah and Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar feed a cow, in the backdrop of Ambedkar Jayanti and Babu Jagjivan Ram Jayanti, in Periyapatna, Mysuru district, on Saturday | EXPRESS

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Mysuru/Bengaluru

CHIEF Minister Siddaramaiah said here on Saturday that the state government will cooperate with the Centre and direct Pakistan nationals to leave the state. "There is no information on the exact number of Pakistanis staying in the state. There may be quite a good number in Bengaluru. We will follow the Centre's directions and act," he said.

Home Minister Dr G Parameshwara said in Bengaluru that the state government is collecting information about Pakistanis living in the state and they will be sent back to their country as per directions issued by the Union Government.

Siddaramaiah, however, felt there is no need for a war with Pakistan. "We are for peace. The focus, however, should be stepping up security. The Union government betrayed people by failing to beef up security in Kashmir. It is sad that people went to Kashmir believing that security measures are in place. These are just slogans and not found on the ground. The Centre has admitted to the security lapse. Can it bring back the lives of 26 people," he asked.

He criticised Prime Minister Narendra Modi for skipping the all-party meeting to discuss the Pahalgam terror attack and instead addressing an election rally. He charged that the PM has failed to understand the gravity of the issue.

Parameshwara said even Pakistani students will have to return to their country as there is no exemption for them in the advisory issued by the Centre after the recent terror attack in Kashmir. "We have instructed all superintendents of police in districts to identify Pakistanis and ask them to leave immediately. They are doing the job," he added.

He said the Centre has exempted those with long-term visas. "The process is on. I do not know the exact number (of Pakistanis staying in Karnataka)," he said. After the terror attack in Kashmir, the Centre asked all the states to be on alert and the state is also following those directions, he said.

> **We have instructed all superintendents of police in districts to identify Pakistanis and ask them to leave immediately. They are doing the job** — Dr G Parameshwara, Home Minister

No compromise while dealing with those who attacked the nation: Pawar

BELAGAVI: Former Union minister and NCP chief **Sharad Pawar** on Saturday said the Centre should take decisive action against those who carried out the terrorist attack in Pahalgam, brutally killing 28 innocent people. "The terrorist attack is not only on the tourists, but on India. When such brutal acts are carried out on the country, nobody should indulge in politics, but support the Union Government in taking effective steps to counter it," he said.

Speaking to the media persons during his visit to Belagavi on Saturday, Pawar said his party would work with the government in such a situation and appeal to it to initiate stern action against the perpetrators. He said there should not be any kind of compromise while dealing with those who attacked the nation.

Dandeli fruit seller held for objectionable post

DANDELI (UTTARA KANNADA): The Uttara Kannada police on Saturday arrested a fruit seller for putting up an objectionable post of BJP leaders, including Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Home Minister Amit Shah. The accused, **Anees Hulgur**, from Dandeli, had posted on Facebook an edited picture depicting BJP leaders in chains led by AIMIM leader Asaduddin Owaisi. The Dandeli police traced him and arrested him. He is a fruit seller at Dandeli market.

AS PER RECENT GUIDELINES, 9 PAKISTANIS IN KALABURAGI CAN CONTINUE TO STAY

KALABURAGI: Nine Pakistanis are residing in Kalaburagi city, and as per the recent guidelines issued by the Union Government as on April 26, all of them can continue staying in here, informed Police Commissioner **Dr Sharanappa SD** on Saturday. Addressing a press conference, Sharanappa said that of the nine Pakistanis residing in Kalaburagi, two possess long-term visas, while seven others have visitor's visas, and are living here for the last 20 years. Of the seven Pakistanis, a woman has gone to the US after getting permission, a few days ago. As per the fresh guidelines, persons of any foreign country staying with a visitor's visa for more than 15 years need not leave the country. The matter has been intimated to all of them, Sharanappa said. In a WhatsApp message on Saturday evening, Sharanappa said the police have noticed that some are going to the houses of foreign (Pakistani) nationals. Visiting their houses and speaking with them is highly sensitive. It may lead to unnecessary complications and legal actions, if something goes wrong, the police commissioner said.

Karjol seeks unconditional apology from Robert Vadra

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Chitradurga

MEMBER of Parliament Govind Karjol on Saturday urged Congress leaders to apologise to people for blaming Hindutva and BJP for the terrorist attack at Pahalgam in Kashmir on April 22.

Speaking to reporters in the city, he said that it is not right for ''anti-national'' Robert Vadra to talk about Hindutva and the BJP on this occasion. "140 crore people of the country should condemn the Pahalgam incident. They should confront it and stand as the backbone to the government at the Centre. Apart from Hindutva, he has spoken derogatorily about the BJP," he alleged.

He questioned Leader of the Opposition in Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi's stand and asked whether he would agree to the statement made by Vadra.

Govind Karjol

"Rahul Gandhi, you are acting like a king in this country because you are a descendant of Jawaharlal Nehru. During the 24-year Congress rule in Kashmir from 1990, thousands of people were killed in the Kashmir Valley, lakhs of Kashmiri Pandits were tortured and driven out of the Valley. But they did not raise their voice in favour of the Kashmiri Pandits. Now, you talk about Hindutva, you are hateful towards Hindus and you speak in an insulting manner. This does not bring you glory, this will lead to the destruction of the Congress," he said. He also urged Robert Vadra to unconditionally apologise to the people of the country.

Businessman Robert Vadra, husband of Congress MP Priyanka Gandhi, on Wednesday linked the Pahalgam terror attack to BJP government's Hindutva push in the country evoking a strong retort from the BJP.

Make Bengaluru greater... by cutting bureaucratic rigmarole

POLITICAL RADAR

RAMU PATIL
Assistant Resident Editor
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Bengaluru, one of the fastest-growing cities in the world, is about to undergo a major overhaul in city governance. By initiating the process to implement the contentious Greater Bengaluru Governance Act (GBGA), the Siddaramaiah government has taken upon itself the monumental task of changing the way the state capital is governed and more importantly, the responsibility to its direct supervision.

The Act, which got the Governor's assent earlier this week, may have to clear some more hurdles before it is fully set in motion to bring in the intended changes, as the opposition and some resident groups plan to take up a legal fight. But, the real challenge for the government would be to implement the Act in letter and spirit to fulfill its stated objective — to improve the quality of life of all citizens by instituting a decentralised, participative, efficient and equitable governance framework.

Over the next few weeks and months, the government's actions will reflect its resolve in that direction. The failure to take the right measures might otherwise suggest that it was merely a move to usurp the powers of urban local bodies by weakening them, or an attempt to delay the local bodies elections in the state capital. There should not be any further delay in holding the elections, though it may take some time to have new corporations.

In the new system, the chief minister will directly oversee the city's development as he heads the Greater Bengaluru Authority. It is to ensure better coordination between the smaller corporations that will be formed by splitting the Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP) and various other agencies involved in the city governance. Though GBGA provides for establishing "not more than seven city corporations", the government is keen on having three corporations in Bengaluru. Also, the Act aims to further empower the Ward Committees to become basic units of urban governance and facilitate community participation.

In 1949, the Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike – or the city corporation – was established by merging two municipalities in charge of the "City Area" and the "Cantonment Area". According to the latest State Economic Survey, the corporation started with seven divisions and as many elected councilors, and the population of Bengaluru was about 7,50,000. It grew over the years — to 1.40 crore today.

In 2007, the BBMP was formed by including seven City Municipal Councils, a Town Municipal Council, and 110 villages on the city's periphery. Now that the huge administrative system will be split, the government contends that the smaller corporations would ensure better governance.

However, the top-heavy structure of the new system raises concerns that it goes against the 74th Constitution Amendment Act 1992, which provides a framework for the decentralisation of power to urban local bodies. The GBGA could lead to further concentration of powers with the CM, Bengaluru Development Minister, MPs and MLAs. Elected members of the smaller corporations will have a lesser say in bigger projects in the corporations. Those concerns need to be addressed.

In any case, the state government always decides on all major projects, because various agencies work in silos. Due to a lack of coordination among the agencies — the BBMP, the city police, water supply and electricity boards — citizens often get the impression that the city is in an autopilot mode.

Citizen participation is crucial to achieving the intended objectives of the new Act and to find a lasting solution to pressing concerns like flooding, solid waste management, traffic congestion, and making roads pedestrian-friendly. Often, the difficulties faced by common people — roads without street lights, pedestrians crossing busy roads, peak hour commuters struggling to find a foothold in the jam-packed Namma Metro, inadequate last-mile connectivity, and many such issues — hardly attract the deserved attention from those in power. It is not clear if the new system would be any better in terms of addressing problems at micro and macro levels.

The question remains: Can the CM and the Bengaluru Development Minister devote enough time and attention to the state capital? Apart from the important portfolios that they directly handle, the CM and the Deputy Chief Minister — who is also the Bengaluru Development Minister, DK Shivakumar — will be swamped by many responsibilities to ensure the overall development of the state.

Ultimately, what matters is the efficiency and intent of those governing our cities and the citizens' cooperation and participation in planning and development. The new system should not just end up being a top-down model, which defeats the purpose of local governance.

Hindu activists want Muslim vendors out of Gadag fair

RAGHOTTAM KOPPAR @ Gadag

THE Pahalgam terror attack has cast a shadow on the Gadag's Tontadarya fair, which is famous for its communal harmony. Activists from Hindu organisations on Saturday staged a protest, demanding that Muslim vendors be thrown out of the fair that started on April 13. They warned that if the vendors from the minority community are not sent out immediately, they will intensify the protest.

Activists from Sri Ram Sene and other organisations said terrorists in Kashmir asked the religion of tourists before killing them. "Here, we will ask the religion of vendors and throw them out of the fair," they added.

Some mutt devotees said the fair is to showcase communal harmony and everybody will be given an opportunity. "If that is the case, the organisers will have to face a difficult situation," the protesters warned. With the threat, the police are keeping a tighter vigil at the fair.

This is one of the important fairs in Gadag, organised by the Tontadarya Mutt, and it is on till May 13. This time, the number of stalls put up by Muslims is more. The mutt, which is famous for communal harmony, invites vendors from other religions too for the fair.

A Sri Ram Sene leader said, "For the last ten years, we have been asking the fair committee to allow only Hindus to put up businesses. This time, we are planning to go for more intense steps. If the fair committee does not decide, we warn that we will pull out Muslim vendors and throw them out."

Mutt authorities, however, have not commented or answered to these protests. They may come up with a decision after meeting with the jatra committee under the guidance of the seer, Siddaram.

Visitors throng the Tontadarya fair in Gadag district | EXPRESS

STAND AGAINST TERROR

Bangalore South Lok Sabha member Tejasvi Surya leads a 'mashaal rally' as a mark of tribute to the victims of the terror attack in Pahalgam, Jammu and Kashmir, in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

Siddu, Kharge to lead mega stir against price rise in B'gavi

BANSY KALAPPA @ Bengaluru

AFTER a mega demonstration in Bengaluru against price rise, Karnataka's Congress leaders are turning up the heat.

AICC General Secretary and Karnataka in-charge Randeep Singh Surjewala and Chief Minister Siddaramaiah are all set to take the battle to Belagavi. On April 28, Siddaramaiah will lead a protest against what Congress calls the Centre's "unchecked" price hikes.

AICC president **Mallikarjun Kharge**, Congress General Secretary -- Organisation KC Venugopal, and senior Congress leaders are expected to take part in the protest. Organised by the KPCC, the agitation will also call for defending the Constitution.

KPCC former working president and party Council Chief Whip Saleem Ahmed said, "While global crude prices have been falling, the Union government has heartlessly hiked the prices of petrol, diesel, and even LPG. The people are being crushed with relentless prices."

Not just Belagavi, Congress is also holding a massive rally on May 1 in Hubballi, against what the party calls the central government's "misgovernance and betrayal of the common man."

MAN-PEACOCK CONFLICT

When beauty becomes beastly problem

BOSKY KHANNA @ Bengaluru

IT is a given that incidents of humans coming in conflict with elephants, leopards, sloth bears and tigers are high. But now, conflicts with peacocks too are on the rise over the last couple of years. The people and forest department officials have not been able to solve the problem as the peacock is not only listed under Schedule-1 of the Wildlife Protection Act, 1972, but is also the national bird.

During Covid, a number of peacock sightings in urban areas were reported. Since then, such straying has increased. People do not harm these birds as it is a delight to watch them dance and perch around. Initially people liked to photograph and videograph them, but over time they have turned into a menace. The

most affected are farmers, who have approached the forest department seeking solutions to mitigate the conflict.

A forest department official said farmers' complaints include peacocks damaging crops and eating grains sown and kept out to dry. Complaints are not just from areas around forests or the Bankapur Peacock Sanctuary in Haveri. They are pouring in from even dry patches of North Karnataka, Mandya, Tumakuru and outskirts of Bengaluru. "They are now found everywhere as they have easily adapted to all sorts of climatic conditions and situations. Since they are omnivorous, food is not a problem for them. Though an increase in the peacock population is a good sign, it is now also a matter of concern as cases of poaching for meat and feathers could rise. There is also the fear of increasing road kills of peacocks, poisoning them to save crops and people harming them otherwise," the official added.

Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, Wildlife, Subhash B Malkhade, said, "There has been an increase in peacock population and the number of incidents of them coming in conflict with humans. So far, no record of the number of incidents has been kept, but complaints are being reported from across the state."

OLD POLITICIAN IS DEAD, TIME FOR CHANGE: RAHUL

Calls upon progressive parties to discuss regaining democratic space

Leader of Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi and Telangana CM A Revanth Reddy along with deligates at the Bharat Summit in Hyderabad on Saturday

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

STATING that the "old politician" is dead and the challenging task of constructing a new politician is needed, Leader of the Opposition in the Lok Sabha Rahul Gandhi on Saturday asserted that democratic politics had fundamentally changed across the globe.

"Rules that applied a decade ago simply no longer apply; they cannot withstand the concentration of capital, modern media and modern social media," the former AICC president remarked, adding, "What was effective 10 years ago, and the tools that worked 10 years ago, simply do not work today. In a sense, the old politician is dead, and a new type of politician must be constructed."

Rahul was addressing the plenary of the Bharat Summit 2025, organised by the Telangana government and attended by around 100 progressive parties from across the globe to discuss climate justice, gender justice, technology, multilateralism, economic and social justice, youth development, peace, and justice.

He called for progressive parties to discuss the changing patterns in politics and new ideas such as education and regaining democratic space. Rahul also outlined a framework to deal with the politics of hatred. He said that no matter how much hatred someone spreads, the most effective way to disrupt them is not by copying them, arguing with them, or fighting them, but by placing the idea of love in front of hatred.

"That, I think, is a potential framework for our politics; we disagree on policies," he said. Rahul alleged that the lens of the "opposition" (referring to political opponents of the Congress) was fear, anger and hatred, while that of Congress and progressive parties should be love and affection. He noted that some years ago, the Congress was completely trapped in the "new politics", with all its avenues like the media compromised. He said that it was then that the party decided to undertake the 4,000-kilometre-long Bharat Jodo Yatra from Kanyakumari to Kashmir and direct communication with the masses.

"Ours should be that which cuts their lens. Our lens should be love and affection, listening to the wishes and the will of the people we are supposed to represent," he said.

"Our opposition across the world has a monopoly on anger, fear and hatred. And there is no way that we are going to compete with them on anger, fear and hatred as they will outdo us," Rahul said. He said the party sought space where it had an advantage to build a counter-narrative of love. "It was essential to listen to the people," Rahul said.

With an oblique reference to the ruling dispensation, he remarked, "Our opposition does not know how to listen as they have all the answers."

He said that it was very important to listen to people, as they want to be heard. He cited the example of a woman who came rushing to meet him during the Bharat Jodo Yatra, to tell him how much she was harassed by her husband. "The moment she narrated her pain, she felt relieved," he said, adding that this reflected the importance of being heard. Restating the need for love and harmony, he observed, "No matter how much hatred someone spreads, the biggest way to disrupt them is not by fighting or responding with hatred, but with love."

CBI case against Pinarayi's chief principal secy

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @Kochi

THE Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) has registered a case against K M Abraham, the chief principal secretary to Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan, for allegedly amassing wealth disproportionate to his known sources of income. The FIR will soon be filed at the CBI Court in Thiruvananthapuram.

The CBI took over the probe on the directive issued by the Kerala High Court on April 11 on a petition filed by Jomon Puthenpurackal, an activist. The agency has booked Abraham, a retired IAS officer, for misconduct and accumulation of disproportionate assets, under various sections of the Prevention of Corruption Act, 1988. A DySP-ranked officer from the CBI's Anti-Corruption Unit in Kochi will investigate the case. Abraham's statement will be recorded.

In his petition in the HC, Jomon had claimed that Abraham owns an apartment in Mumbai worth ₹3 crore, a flat at Thycaud in Thiruvananthapuram valued at around ₹1 crore, and a three-storey shopping complex in Kollam worth ₹8 crore. He claimed the EMI for the Mumbai property alone is ₹84,000, while Abraham's official salary is ₹80,000 per month. He also alleged that Abraham failed to disclose the source of funds used for repaying the loan on the Thycaud apartment and the construction of the Kollam property. Abraham had claimed that Jomon's allegations stemmed from the action taken against the latter for the misuse of a PWD rest house. Abraham was the Additional Chief Secretary (Finance) at the time.

The Vigilance and Anti-Corruption Bureau (VACB) had given a clean chit to Abraham, stating the Thiruvananthapuram apartment was worth only ₹13.56 lakh and the Mumbai flat was valued at ₹99.75 lakh. It had also concluded that the shopping complex in Kollam was inherited by Abraham's two brothers and no personal fund was involved in its construction.

However, the HC, after examining the VACB's preliminary inquiry report, concluded that Abraham possessed both movable and immovable properties of substantial value, disproportionate to his known sources of income. Given Abraham's high-profile position, the court expressed a lack of confidence in the VACB investigation and ordered a CBI probe.

In 2015, Jomon had moved the Vigilance Court seeking a probe against Abraham for the same allegations. However, in 2017, the court dismissed his petition based on the VACB report giving clean chit to Abraham.

ISRO PARTNERSHIP SEEKS TO ADVANCE SPACE MEDICINE

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

THE Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), Department of Space (DoS) and Sree Chitra Tirunal Institute for Medical Sciences and Technology (SCTIMST) and the Department of Science and Technology (DST) signed a framework memorandum of understanding on cooperation in space medicine.

The partnership is aimed to help in the advancement of space medicine and its applications in the country. The MoU will help benefit the national human space programme as well as spur innovations and developments in the fields of human physiological studies, behavioural health studies, biomedical support systems, radiation biology and medicine, countermeasures for improving human health and performance in space environment, telemedicine and communication protocols and crew medical kit for space missions. The programme will create opportunities for studies and experiments, especially in the field of space medicine, said an official release on Saturday.

The MoU has been signed at a time when ISRO is working on the Indian human space programme.

V Narayanan, Chairman, ISRO, highlighted that maintaining human health and performance in the extreme environment of outer space is very important for the successful

long duration human space missions. A national space-based platform such as the Bharatiya Antariksh Station will enable the utilisation of the niche space environment to undertake cutting edge human research and technology development based on our national priorities. This collaboration can inspire young people to pursue careers in STEM fields, driving innovation in the country.

Dr Sunil Kumar, Additional Secretary and Head, AI Division, DST, said research and development in space medicine will enhance the understanding on human physiology, human adaption, development of new medical devices and diagnostic procedures. These developments for space have the potential to improve healthcare for people on earth.

Dr Sanjay Behari, Director, SCTIMST, said with ISRO, they will develop clean room and zero gravity labs, co-develop biomedical devices and transform equipment developed for space exploration for human health on earth.

ISRO takes lead role in space disaster management

Bengaluru : The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) is taking the lead in space-based disaster management initiatives as a part of the International Charter Space and Major Disasters for six months starting from April. The 'lead role' tenure started soon after the recently held 53rd meeting of the charter in Hyderabad, organised by the National Remote Sensing Centre (NRSC) and ISRO. Participants from major global space agencies, including 22 foreign delegates, attended the event. India is a signatory to the charter and celebrated its 25th anniversary in 2025, with ISRO being a founder member, said an official release on Saturday. The charter functions as a collaborative framework involving 17 member organisations, who voluntarily provide Earth observation data and value-added products for managing disasters occurring globally. During the lead role period, NRSC and ISRO would coordinate the global disaster response efforts of the charter using space-based assets, including managing the activation requests, rapid dissemination of products, leading strategic planning and facilitating training, outreach and capacity-building activities, the charter stated. **ENS**

PAHALGAM EFFECT

One Pakistani leaves Hyd, others to follow

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Hyderabad

THE Hyderabad police on Saturday issued notices to four Pakistani nationals to leave the country. According to official information, 212 Pakistani nationals were staying across three commissionerates — Hyderabad, Cyberabad and Rachakonda — as of Saturday. Of them, 198 persons were in the Hyderabad Commissionerate, three in the Rachakonda Commissionerate and 11 in the Cyberabad Commissionerate.

A source from the Special Branch told *TNIE* that police issued notices to four Pakistani nationals who had arrived in Hyderabad on short-term visas. "One of the Pakistani nationals left on Saturday itself, and the other three are scheduled to leave on Sunday," the official said.

A police official, speaking anonymously, said they had not issued notices to those who arrived on long-term visas, regardless of religion. "We are not issuing any notices to those who are here on long-term visas," the official said.

The senior police officer stated that most of the Pakistanis staying in Telangana were Muslims, though there are people from the Hindu community as well. "Most of those who arrived on long-term visas have ancestral links to the region," an official stated.

Dalit man beaten over loudspeaker volume at festival

SARAVANAN MP @ Dindigul

A 45-year-old man from the Scheduled Caste (SC) community was assaulted, allegedly by members of a dominant caste, during a religious festival in Palani on Friday night for increasing the volume of a loudspeaker. Following the attack, the Palani Taluk police registered a case under the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes (Prevention of Atrocities) Act against a 28-year-old man identified as Athiyan, who is currently absconding.

The victim, P Marimuthu, told TNIE, "I have been operating mic sets for the last 30 years in Kodaimangalam panchayat. Every year, the members of the dominant community collect holy water from Kodumudi (Erode) and take it to Dhandayudapani temple in Palani, after offering prayers at the Savadi shelter."

"On Friday evening, they installed loudspeakers and played devotional songs. One group had already proceeded with the holy water towards Palani. Later, Athiyan arrived on a bike and started to argue with me saying I increased the volume unnecessarily. As I tried to calm him down, he hit me on my face, pushed me on the ground and kicked me. He then jumped on my back attempting to injure my spine, before hurling casteist slurs and fleeing the spot," Marimuthu alleged.

Marimuthu was later admitted to the Palani Government Hospital with the help of locals.

Kasturirangan's last rites to be held with state honours

Bengaluru; The state government on Saturday announced that the last rites of Dr K Kasturirangan, former chairman of the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), will be conducted with full state honours. The noted space scientist passed away on April 25 at his residence in Bengaluru. The ISRO had said that the mortal remains of Dr Kasturirangan will be kept at Raman Research Institute till Sunday from 10 am to 12 noon for people to pay their last respects. The family of Dr Kasturirangan said his last rites will be conducted on Sunday, after his elder son Sanjay Ranjan returns from the United States. **ENS**

AMONG THE MASSES

Andhra Pradesh CM N Chandrababu Naidu interacts with fishermen during the launch of Matsyakarula Sevalo scheme at Etcherla constituency on Saturday

'Set clear rules for checks before exams'

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

THE petitioner argued that forcibly removing the sacred thread violates the religious beliefs protected under the Constitution. They stated that no action has been taken yet against officials responsible for this unconstitutional act.

The petition also demanded that KEA should be directed to conduct a retest for students who were not allowed to write the test. Clear guidelines should be formulated for student checks before exams conducted by KEA.

The act of denying students entry into the exam hall because they were wearing a sacred thread should be declared unconstitutional, arbitrary, and illegal.

Kin of 2 KSRTC staffer get ₹1cr each

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Bengaluru

FOR the first time, the Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation (KSRTC) paid a compensation of Rs 25 lakh to an employee who lost his right leg in an accident. This apart, the bus corporation paid Rs 1 crore each to two dependents of deceased employees under the Sarige Suraksha scheme. The transport utility also paid Rs 10 lakh each to 31 dependents of deceased employees, totalling Rs 3.10 crore, under the family welfare compensation scheme.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy and KSRTC vice-chairman Mohammed Rizwan Nawab distributed the compensation cheques under to the dependents on Saturday.

Reddy said, "The bus corporation is in a good position today because of the staff who work day and night. It is the responsibility of the corporation to take care of the families of deceased employees. In this regard, 1,000 jobs were given to the dependents on compassionate grounds in all four corporations." He advised the families to utilise the compensation for their children's education, house construction and other works and not loan the money to anyone in the hope of getting interest. He said to protect the health of the workers, the KSRTC Arogya scheme has also been implemented, enabling them to get cashless treatment at more than 300 hospitals across the state. To date, more than 56,000 staff/dependents have received treatment under this scheme.

Transport Minister Ramalinga Reddy hands over compensation to the family of a KSRTC staffer in Bengaluru on Saturday | EXPRESS

Sunilkumar B D, a driver-cum-conductor of Arkalgudu depot, Hassan division, who lost his right leg in a collision with a lorry near the Kunigal bypass on March 25 last year, received a compensation of Rs 25 lakh. The corporation also bore his full medical expenditure of Rs 4.85 lakh. He has been provided with light duty as a technical assistant.

MGS, a historian who went by scientific temper, not fables, passes away

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@Kozhikode

EMINENT historian **M G S Narayanan**, who evaluated history using the microscope of scientific temper and not by popular fables, passed away at his residence in Malaparamba, Kozhikode, on Friday following age-related ailments. He was 92.

A respected scholar and former chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR), the native of Ponnani in Malappuram laid the foundation for scientific study of history in the country. A product of the human school of thought, MGS found himself at odds with political parties on several occasions. Over the years, he clashed with the Left, the Congress, and the BJP in Kerala, unafraid to voice his dissent regardless of the party in power.

His mortal remains were cremated at the Mavoor Road crematorium on Saturday by 4:30pm, after ministers including A K Saseendran paid final respects.

His seminal contribution was the study of the second Chera dynasty that culminated in his book *Perumals of Kerala*, a landmark work in the state's historiography. He differed with the legendary Elamkulam Kunjan Pillai on the issue of Chera dynasty but never belittled Pillai's contribution to Kerala history. He also made notable discoveries, including stone and copper plate inscriptions, which opened new avenues for historical research in the state.

MGS joined the ICHR when the Congress was in power. Yet, he did not shy away from criticising the party, emerging as a vocal opponent of what he described the party's culture of family rule. It was perhaps this independent stance that prompted the BJP-led Vajpayee government to appoint him as chairman of the ICHR in 2001. However, his tenure was short-lived. True to his principles, MGS resigned in protest against government interference in the council's decisions.

Later, he made it clear that had the Narendra Modi government offered him the position, he would have declined.

Born on August 20, 1932, as Muttayil Govinda Menon Shankara Narayanan, he completed his graduation in economics and PG in history from the University of Madras. He began his teaching career in 1954 at Zamorin (Guruvayurappan) College, Kozhikode, later joining the Kozhikode centre of the University of Kerala in 1964 and the University of Calicut in 1968. He was an active member of the Indian History Congress from 1974 and retired in 1992 as the head of the history department at the University of Calicut. He is survived by wife Premalatha, son Vijayakumar and daughter Vinaya Manoj.

EXPRESS READ

AIDSO protest against conversion of colleges

Bengaluru: The All India Democratic Students' Organisation (AIDSO) will protest at Freedom Park in Bengaluru on Tuesday against the government's decision to convert RC College and Government Arts College into constituent colleges of Bengaluru City University (BCU). It stated that converting two major institutions into constituent colleges would make higher education unaffordable for poor and rural students. **ENS**

"See the good in that which is evil, and the evil in that which is good. Pledge yourself to neither side, but vow instead to preserve the balance between the two

Hayao Miyazaki

TRUMP AND 100 DAYS OF VICISSITUDE

DONALD J Trump completes 100 days in office—a benchmark imposed by history—this week. Trump has enshrined uncertainty in global discourse. In a blitzkrieg of actions—executive orders, declarations of emergency and a flurry of directives—the US president has wedged the world between incertitude and vicissitude, between chaos and the promise of a new order.

The cosy comfort of the status quo of the past decades is unravelling—within the US and world over. Global trade is in suspended animation following his yo-yo on tariffs, the imposition and the 90-day pause. In its recent forecast, the IMF has trimmed global growth to sub-3 percent and warned of worse if uncertainty persists.

Stock indices tanked and rallied, but the benchmark S&P500 trailed its highs by over 500 points and investors lost billions the world over. Barring Warren Buffet, each of the top 10 on Bloomberg Billionaires Index lost money. Mood music in America's consumption corridors—University of Michigan's consumer sentiment survey—is at a nervous 52, way below December's 74. Public opinion is split, with less than half of US voters approving of Trump's performance. And yes, the price of eggs is higher.

Trump is not the apprentice he seemed to be in 2016. He arrived with executive smarts and a submissive legislative party. Unconstrained by convention, DJT issued 139 executive orders and deployed national emergency powers. Definitions matter. While 12 states have gone to court, a study by Brennan Center shows Trump can access 137 laws to propel his agenda and that standby powers do not expressly require a declaration of war.

THE THIRD EYE

SHANKKAR AIYAR

Author of *The Gated Republic*, *Aadhaar: A Biometric History of India's 12 Digit Revolution*, and *Accidental India*

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The US president is unruffled. He has declared a national emergency on energy for exploration, refining, production and generation capacity. Invocation of the Alien Enemies Act has had a chilling effect on migration. Use of the International Emergency Economic Powers Act for imposing tariffs on most countries and an island of penguins has upended global supply chains. Unsurprisingly, corporate America is either lowering guidance or ditching them altogether as companies pull back investments.

The response to his actions is, predictably, binary. Trump is doing everything he said he would. Indeed, he recently observed in an interview, "What I'm doing is exactly what I've campaigned on." That has not muffled the gasps or dampened the shocks. To paraphrase Daniel Kahneman, the ability to predict the future trajectory of Trump 2.0 is undermined by the ease with which the navigation of Trump 1.0 is explained.

Of course, not everything has panned out as he promised. On the campaign trail, he claimed he would end the Russia-Ukraine war in 24 hours. It is now 97 days. Russia has rejected his peace proposal, which his friend Boris Johnson trashed this week. Meanwhile, Russia continues to bomb Kyiv, forcing him to post "Vladimir, STOP!" on his Truth Social platform.

Peace in Gaza is elusive as he urges Israel to allow more humanitarian aid into the devastated strip. Greenland has rebuffed the Trumpian idea. On Canada, Trump told *Time* that he is "not trolling. I say the only way this thing really works is for Canada to become a state". The assertion helped Liberals led by Mark Carney ahead of the Conservatives in the ongoing campaign.

The tariffs plan itself is wobbling astride whims and worries. The imagery is less reflective of the art of the deal and more about the art of the spiel—about bombastic claims. Yes, there is talk about deals with India, Japan and Korea—these are most likely agreements of understanding, as Bessent puts it, which is a euphemism for agreeing to meet again. The theme of encircling China is sputtering. China has warned its trading partners and countries are wary of the costs of choosing between the two largest economies.

The US-China standoff is verily a ping-pong of claims and denials. Trump said he talked with Xi about tariffs; China denied the talks took place. The truth may well be between the assertion and denial. On Tuesday, Trump told reporters in the Oval Office that tariffs on China will "come down substantially". This could be interpreted as the olive branch and/or a response to warnings by big-box retailers such as Walmart that high tariffs could result in higher prices and empty shelves. Trump is at the intersection of dilemmas. The reality of import dependence and tempestuous markets is challenging his gambit.

Trump does care about the economy and the markets, but make no mistake, Trump 2.0 is about geopolitics. This is manifest in his desire to acquire Greenland, reiteration of Canada as the 51st State, vacating Gaza, the push for mineral rights in Ukraine and the takeover of the Panama Canal. The sensitivity about markets is visible in some of the pivots—for instance, on sacking US Federal Reserve Chair Jerome Powell, apparently on the advice of Treasury Secretary Bessent, who is now seen by many as 'the voice'. There is no guarantee, however, that Bessent will be heard the next time. Or that Trump will temper his belief of tariffs as the weapon for a geopolitical reset.

In his inaugural address, Trump underlined his quest for a legacy. He said the US will once again consider itself as a growing nation that increases its wealth and "expands our territory". The old trope—'should he be taken literally or seriously'—followed him into office. Trump wants to be taken both literally and seriously. Events will determine if the world agrees.

INDIAN WOMEN'S WEALTH WIZARDRY

POWER & POLITICS

PRABHU CHAWLA

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IN the kaleidoscopic arena of global finance, where markets pirouette with the frenzy of a cosmic storm, a luminous truth gleams like a celestial beacon—Indian women, the unsung architects of prosperity, have woven gold into an empire of enduring splendour.

Uday Kotak, titan of Kotak Mahindra Bank, has crowned them 'the smartest fund managers', a proclamation that resounds like a temple bell. On April 22, he posted on X: "The performance of gold over time highlights that the Indian housewife is the smartest fund manager in the world. Governments, central banks, economists who support pump-priming, high deficit funding, may need to take a leaf from India, a net importer of store of value forever!"

Harsh Goenka, sagacious chairman of RPG Group, amplified this ode with a wry anecdote: "Ten years ago, I bought a car for ₹8L. She bought gold for ₹8L. Today—car's worth ₹1.5L. Her gold? ₹32L. I said, 'Let's skip gold, go on a vacation?' She said, 'Vacation lasts 5 days. Gold lasts 5 generations.' Moral: Wives are smarter." These financial colossuses bow before the unerring wisdom of women, whose golden gambits outshine Wall Street's sharpest oracles. The better halves are turning out to be the finest financial mentors.

Gold in India transcends mere metallurgy. It's a sacred saga, a divine force shaped by women who wield it with the precision of poets and the foresight of seers. Once dismissed as a "non-productive asset"—a critique Kotak himself voiced in 2019, citing its strain on India's current account deficit—gold has soared like a mythic phoenix. Its 26 percent surge in 2025 alone has silenced sceptics, transforming heirlooms into a financial juggernaut that humbles stocks and bonds. This is not mere investment, but alchemy—a miracle forged by women whose steadfast belief in gold's lustre has turned cultural reverence into economic triumph.

To grasp gold's sanctity, one must delve into India's soul, where it is less a commodity than a covenant. It is the bangle adorning a bride's wrist, the coin tucked beneath a mattress, a shield against life's tempests. A Delhi-based cultural historian observes, "Gold is not just wealth; it is the pulse of lineage, a silent vow of security woven into India's fabric."

Unlike in the West, for Indian women, gold is both talisman and treasury, a bulwark against inflation's erosion and currency's caprice. Socially, it binds generations, a gleaming thread in the tapestry of kinship. Economically, it underpins nearly 40 percent of India's GDP, a testament to its reign as the nation's sovereign asset. Indian households, guided by women's deft hands, hold a staggering 24,000-25,000 tonnes of gold—11 percent of the world's jewellery, valued at ₹24-25 trillion. This trove dwarfs the reserves of the US (8,000 tonnes), Germany (3,300 tonnes), Italy (2,450 tonnes), France (2,400 tonnes), and Russia (1,900 tonnes) combined. Western households, by contrast, possess a mere 2,000-3,000 tonnes, mostly in bars and coins. Europe's gold slumbers in central bank vaults.

SOURAV ROY

This disparity reflects a profound cultural divide. In India, gold is a vibrant emblem of security and status, worn with the pride of a warrior's crest. In the West, wealth pulses through intangible stocks and bonds, abstract and fleeting. Indian women, with their intuitive brilliance, have crafted a legacy that eclipses the cold calculus of global markets. Their gold collection is a living testament to wisdom that spans eras and empires.

Why has gold, once a passive relic, ascended to such stratospheric heights? A confluence of global and domestic currents provides the answer. Geopolitical turbulence—like the escalating US-China tensions and murmurs of a US economic slowdown—has driven investors to safe havens. "Gold thrives amid uncertainty, its lustre untouched by the tempests of global markets," a Mumbai-based analyst notes.

Domestically, gold's role has evolved from static store to dynamic hedge. A 2025 financial report states, "Over the past decade, gold stocks have quadrupled, consistently outpacing inflation." From ₹25,000 per 10 grams in 2015 to ₹98,420 in 2025, gold's 300 percent climb overshadows the BSE Sensex's 200 percent rise from 28,000 to 80,000. With an annualised return of about 15 percent, gold is no longer a dormant asset, but a comet whose trajectory is propelled by women's foresight.

In the bustling bazaars of Chennai, the winding alleys of Old Delhi, and the sleek penthouses of Mumbai, women orchestrate this golden symphony. Envision a matriarch, her sari shimmering like a Himalayan dawn, negotiating with a jeweller whose scales tremble under her gaze. Her purchase—a necklace, a coin—is no impulse, but a calculated act blending sentiment with strategy. These women are not mere consumers but high priestesses, their homes sanctuaries where bangles whisper tales of resilience.

In villages, gold is a farmer's wife's armour against drought. In urban enclaves, it is an executive's shield against market volatility. Digital gold, summoned with a smartphone's swipe, bears their mark, marrying ancestral wisdom with modern innovation. From gold exchange-traded funds to sovereign bonds, women have stormed financial frontiers, their acumen reshaping India's economic landscape with an audacity that humbles tycoons.

Yet, gold's brilliance casts complex shadows. The dowry system, though declining, still tethers women to burdensome expectations. Mining's environmental scars and sourcing's ethical dilemmas loom large. But Indian women, ever pragmatic, confront these challenges with clarity. They champion recycled gold, advocate for sustainable practices, and push for reforms to ease tradition's weight. Their devotion is not dogmatic but discerning, a dance of reverence and reinvention that keeps gold's flame burning bright.

As India weathers economic storms, gold remains its lodestar, guided by women whose wisdom rivals the grandest hedge funds. They have not merely preserved wealth but amplified it, their golden acumen a beacon in a turbulent world. Kotak and Goenka, giants of industry, stand in awe of these queens of carats. Their natural instincts have outwitted algorithmic models. Gold's ascent challenges the orthodoxy of modern finance, proving that wisdom need not wear a suit or wield a spreadsheet. It dons a sari, a salwar kameez, a smile, and a bangle aglow with ancestral dreams.

Ultimately, Bharatiya naris are the true alchemists, transforming a metal forged in Earth's crucible into a legacy of resilience and foresight. To call their affinity for gold an obsession is to miss the profundity. They do not chase gold; gold seeks them, striving to match their radiant pace. In their hands, gold is not just wealth but wit, not just tradition but revolution. The greatest treasure lies not in the metal they hold, but in the women themselves. Their vision is a currency no market could ever rival. They are the new social entrepreneurs who know how to survive and thrive. And mint more money without market manipulations.

THE INNOCENT FURY OF ADOLESCENT DRAMA

OPINION

NAMRATA JOSHI

Consulting Editor

Follow her on X @Namrata_Joshi

IF 13-year-old Jamie Miller in Philip Barantini's celebrated Netflix series *Adolescence* had a soul brother, it could well be the soon-to-turn-16 Liam in Ken Loach's *Sweet Sixteen* (2002) and, well before that, the 15-year-old Billy Casper in his 1969 masterpiece *Kes*.

All three adolescents have one significant thing in common: their roots in the working class that was disempowered back then, and has perhaps been pushed even farther to the margins now. None of them can quite escape how his place in the social stratum defines and confines his life and fosters a profound restlessness and bottomless angst. The world of social and economic inequities fuels an inner rage, which is as much their own as it is an inheritance down the generations and takes shape in the lap of families that are far from perfect.

Billy finds a speck of hope in falconry and the possibility of a vocation that the education system would otherwise deny him but it's all too short-lived an option as the future remains a question mark. Having dropped out of school, Liam drifts aimlessly, selling untaxed cigarettes and illegal drugs, dreaming of starting life afresh in a caravan with his jailed mother once she gets released, little realising that his 16th birthday implies that he can now be tried as an adult for his crimes and misdemeanours. The caravan, like Billy's falconry, remains an illusion—very near and yet so far.

Similarly, Jamie, accused of murdering his classmate Katie, can't escape his fate. The pent-up working class fury gets unleashed in all its agony in the epic third episode as he, a plumber's son—whose home door can be callously broken by the cops and van insensitively defiled by strangers—takes on his posh psychiatrist. A case of wreaking violence with words in return for the wounds of the heart, mind and soul inflicted by the uncaring privileged.

Jamie's rage in *Adolescence* gets magnified with the intrusion of the internet and social media. The virtual world that the young men like him seem to inhabit more than the real and the concomitant expectations it imposes on them in the face of phenomenons like the toxic manosphere, misogynistic influencers, online radicalisation and incel (involuntary celibate) culture.

In the sea of films and series—both from the West and India—about adolescents, that have largely been coming-of-age stories, about teenage crushes and proms, *Kes*, *Sweet Sixteen* and *Adolescence* stand out by focusing on the more complex explorations of troubled teen psyches where innocence is accompanied with malevolence.

"As flies to wanton boys are we to the gods; they kill us for their sport," wrote Shakespeare in *King Lear* to underscore god's irrational ways in dealing with humans. Hur Jin-ho's 2023 South Korean film *A Normal Family* is an acute exploration of a similar illogicality of violence among teenagers and the darkness that seems to reside deep within their hearts. However, unlike Jamie, Liam and Billy, Hye-yoon and Si-ho are affluent. In fact, it's the safety net provided by wealth that turns the kids into monsters and their sense of entitlement desensitises them to violence. *A Normal Family* questions parenting, society, morality and the legal system in creating this macabre ecosystem of feckless brutality among the young.

Teenagers in Philip Barantini's new series *Adolescence* and Ken Loach's old films indulge in feckless violence. In India, Rima Das, Prithvi Konanur and Nagraj Manjule have turned the lens on angsty teenagers

Hirokazu Kore-eda's *Monster* (2023) tries to find answers for crimes of innocence. What is driving the behavioural changes in its young protagonist, the elementary school student Mugino Minato? Why is he bullying his classmate? Kore-eda looks at adolescent violence that emerges from not being able to belong, in being an outlier when it comes to issues of identity and sexuality.

Rima Das from Assam is perhaps the most consistent Indian filmmaker when it comes to dealing with adolescence, be it in her *Village Rockstars 1* and *2*, or *Bulbul Can Sing*. The latter is where her vision gets darker, with her carefree pubescent protagonists, Bulbul, Bonnie and Suman, having to contend with the violence of patriarchy and moral policing.

Prithvi Konanur's Kannada film *Hadinelentu 17/18* (*Seventeeners*, 2022) looks at the dangers of the virtual world for the young with an intimate video of two 12th graders going viral online. But what's even more subtly threatening is the caste system that they have challenged—Deepa is a Dalit while Hari is a Brahmin.

In the light of this societal stratification, the closest Jamie, Liam and Billy's anger depicted in Indian cinema could well be the righteous rage of Jabya in Nagraj Manjule's powerful Marathi debut feature, *Fandry* (2013). Belonging to a family of pig-catchers living on the margins of the society, his forbidden love for the high-caste classmate Shalu fires his dreams and desires.

But can his adolescent love be adequately disruptive and erase the caste differences? A stone hurled in anger by him is not just an act of defiance in love, but a metaphor for the larger resistance of the disempowered against centuries of prejudice and oppression.

QUOTE CORNER

They want to directly review who we hire on our faculty... they also want to be able to tell us who we need to fire, and they also want to intervene in our admissions processes. That's what we're objecting to.

Alan Garber, president of Harvard, in his first interview since the university sued the Trump administration over frozen federal research funding

It is significant that Pope Francis's first journey was to Lampedusa, an island that symbolises the tragedy of immigration, with thousands of people drowning at sea.

Giovanni Battistere, dean of the College of Cardinals at the Vatican in his homily at Pope Francis's requiem mass

I have been here so long that I truly thought it would never end.

Jamie Vardy, 38, on leaving Leicester City after 13 years at the club, during which he became the oldest player to win the Premier League's Golden Boot

MAILBAG WRITE TO letters@newindianexpress.com

Apologise publicly

Ref: *Special session of parliament likely* (Apr 26). I am an octogenarian, and over the years, I have heard of many incidents of violence and thievery. But the Pahalgam tragedy has shaken me to the core. It raises a pressing question: why was there no adequate security for the tourists, who are taxpayers and contribute significantly to the economy? Ironically, the money they pay is used to ensure round-the-clock security for VIPs. Those responsible for this glaring security lapse must not only apologise to the public, but also face appropriate consequences.

S N Agrawal, Bengaluru

United front

Ref: *Will not let a drop of water flow into Pak* (Apr 26). The move to stop the flow of water from Indian rivers into Pakistan is a step in the right direction. The J&K government welcomed the Centre's decision, saying that the treaty is the 'most unfair document' for the people of Kashmir. In a rare gesture, worshippers at the Friday prayers in Srinagar's Jamia Masjid not only observed a minute's silence in memory of the victims, but condemned the attack on innocent tourists. It showed that the Kashmiri locals wholeheartedly support the Centre's action against terrorism.

D Sethuraman, Chennai

Power separation

Ref: *An unhappy conversation continues* (Apr 26). The legislature makes laws based on the democratic principle, the executive's responsibility is to enforce them, and the judiciary interprets the laws and ensure their application. Balance of power demands that each branch functions independent of the others. The constitution gives the judiciary the power to pronounce a verdict without consulting the executive and the legislature. To have a well-functioning government, the checks and balances need to be active and based on the democratic principle.

Ravi Nair, Palakkad

Continue efforts

Ref: *Jamia's residential coaching academy helps 32 students clear UPSC* (Apr 25). Congratulations to the students who succeeded, and also to those who participated but couldn't succeed. They should remember that success is not a final thing and failure is not fatal. It is the courage to continue that counts. One thing is universal, success doesn't come easy—it demands hard work, patience and sincerity in efforts. It isn't a destination, but a journey filled with challenges.

Shahzad Alam Nadwi, Rampur

Raag variations

Ref: *Hitting the perfect pitch* (Apr 26). I have not heard the '*Shiva Stuti*' referred to in the short editorial, but I am sure a music director of A R Rahman's calibre could not have copied the tune as a clean extract. If songs are set in the same raag, their resemblance could be close. But that alone would not amount to copying. Malayalam music director G Devarajan Master did more than 30 film songs on raag Mohanam, but none of those songs could be said to be an absolute copy of another. The genius handled the raag to reach wonderful dimensions.

Sanath Kumar T S, Thrissur

VC conference

Ref: *Governor Ravi vindicating constitutional oath by holding VC conference: VP* (Apr 26). The governor has exhibited a disregard for the Supreme Court's verdict by conducting a conference of vice-chancellors of Tamil Nadu universities. The irony is that he invited the vice president and later made a pungent remark. We feel sorry for VP Dhankhar.

Tharcius S Fernando, Chennai

Safe swimming

Ref: *Three Chennai college students drown in river* (Apr 26). It has almost become daily news students on a sightseeing tour meet their end while taking a dip in rivers, lakes, seas and other water bodies. People who do not know swimming should desist from such misadventures, as lives are too precious to be lost so tragically.

S Vaithianathan, Madurai

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RSS chief says duty of king is to protect people ● 'Can we store water stopped from flowing into Pak'

Bhagwat: 'We never harm neighbour, but...'

We never insult or harm our neighbours, but if some don't change or continue creating trouble to the world, teaching a lesson is also non-violence and religion

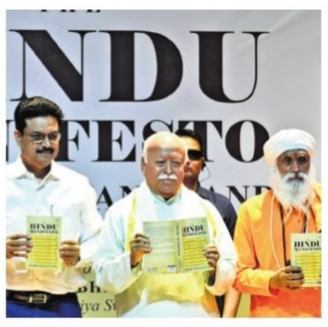
Mohan Bhagwat, RSS chief

RAJESH KUMAR THAKUR
@ New Delhi

AMID heightened tensions between India and Pakistan and fears of military retaliation against Pakistan-based terrorists' networks following the Pahalgam terror attack, RSS chief Mohan Bhagwat on Saturday said, "We never insult or harm our neighbours, but if some don't change or continue creating trouble to the world, teaching a lesson is also non-violence and religion."

Without naming Pakistan, Bhagwat said, "Non-violence is our nature, our values. Our non-violence is to change people and make them non-violent... But some people will not change, no matter what you do; they continuously create trouble. What needs to be done for this is to reach a lesson those who provoke us."

While refraining from defending any specific action taken by the Narendra Modi government after the Pahalgam masscare, the RSS chief underlined that it is the responsibility of a king to safeguard the populace. "If someone turns to evil, what is the other option? The duty of the king is to protect the people, the king must perform his



duty," he said at the launch of a book, 'The Hindu Manifesto', authored by Swami Vigyananand.

Citing the demon king Ravana as an allegorical reference, Bhagwat remarked that Ravana had all qualities to be good. "But he did not let goodness come and after that he became the reason for non-violence," he said.

Bhagwat's remarks came in the backdrop of a nationwide outrage over a deadly attack on tourists on April 22 at Baisaran meadows. He stressed that provocateurs must be disciplined and dealt with, as it is part of the tenets of Hindu Dharma. "To teach a lesson to "atayachari" (oppressor) and making those indulging in hooliganism non-violent is religion," he said.

A third path

RSS chief described Bharat's civilisational model as a 'third path'—a balanced harmony between spiritual and material well-being. Bhagwat stressed that provocateurs must be disciplined as it is part of the tenets of Hindu Dharma.

Kharge questions govt on Indus Waters Treaty

This is not the time to find fault. We will say it when the occasion arises. What will be the result of the action taken will be a debate for the future. How can we hold back water that is flowing from us?

Mallikarjun Kharge, LoP in Rajya Sabha

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE
@ Bengaluru

TERMING the Centre's decision to suspend the Indus River Treaty of 1960 as impractical, AICC president and LoP in the Rajya Sabha Mallikarjun Kharge on Saturday questioned Prime Minister Narendra Modi's absence at the all-party meeting held in New Delhi to discuss the Pahalgam terror attack.

"Does the country have enough dams to store water stopped from flowing into the Pakistan territory," Kharge wondered when he was asked whether he was satisfied with the Centre's decisions to punish Pakistan for allegedly sponsoring the attack.

Speaking on the sidelines of inaugurating a statue of Dr BR Ambedkar, Kharge 'revealed' that Home Minister Amit Shah at the all-party meeting admitted to security lapses in the Pahalgam terror attack in which 26 people, mostly tourists, were gunned down. Shah promised to take measures to ensure such incidents do not recur, he added.

But Kharge said he will not raise security lapse among other issues that resulted in the incident right now as the

country's security is top priority. "This is not the time to find fault. We will say it when the occasion arises. What will be the result of the action taken will be a debate for the future. How can we hold back water that is flowing from us? Do we have enough dams to store it? The decision and resolution taken by the government right now is good for the country," he maintained.

On the all-party meeting, which was chaired by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh, he said, " We all, including LoP in LS Rahul Gandhi, were there as Modi had called the meeting. Modi should have been there to address certain issues including the security lapse and who were all responsible for it. It was not right of him to skip the meeting given the gravity of the incident."

'Lapses in security intelligence'

Kharge said PM Modi addressing an election rally in Bihar and capitalising on the Pahalgam incident is unbecoming of his post. "He should have told us what happened, who was responsible, and lapses in security, intelligence."

Oppn flags 'misleading' info at all-party meeting

PREETHA NAIR @ New Delhi

TWO days after the government convened an all-party meeting on Pahalgam terror attack, several Opposition leaders slammed the Centre for allegedly "misleading" the meeting on the "security lapses".

At the meeting, Home Ministry officials had briefed the Parliamentarians that tour operators did not seek permission from local authorities to visit the Baisaran valley, where the deadly attack took place. The officials also informed the leaders that the meadow opens around June but was opened on April 20, and tourists were taken to the areas without permission from the police and local authorities.

However, citing media reports and officials "that the meadow is open throughout the year barring snowy season", Opposition parties, including Congress and Trinamool Congress questioned the veracity of the government's claim.

Citing a media report, Congress Rajya Sabha MP and AICC general secretary media in-charge Jairam Ramesh said that the government seems to have 'misinformed' the meeting. "It appears that the all-par-

ty meeting on April 24th chaired by the Raksha Mantri was not briefed properly. Actually it seems to have been mis-informed," he wrote on X.

Congress RS MP Randeep Surjewala said the intelligence and security failures in Pahalgam terror attack is becoming more intriguing. "Did the Home Minister, Defence Minister & Union BJP government lie to mislead the all-party meeting and the entire country? Why and for what reason?" he wrote on a post in X.

"Please see the chronology. On April 25th, Modi government admitted to security lapse in all-party meeting and pointed out that Baisaran ground was not to be opened for tourists till June 2025 and was opened without security deployment and clearance," he said.

"Pahalgaon officials, tour operators and pony riders say Baisaran grounds always remain open and no security clearance is required."

"Why was security, then, not deployed at Baisaran Grounds by the government, knowing fully well that Pahalgam is a high security zone with three tier security of Police-CRPF-Military and 70% tourists visit the Baisaran ground?" he said.

TMC's Rajya Sabha MP Sagarika Ghose said, "Why did the Modi government and the Home Minister Amit Shah mislead the opposition by stating that no police permission was sought to open the Baisaran meadow where the massacre took place on April 22?..."

Govt to channels: No live coverage of defence ops

PARVEZ SULTAN @ New Delhi

IN wake of the Pahalgam terrorist attack, the media outlets, especially the television news channels have been advised to refrain from showing live coverage of defence operations or movement of security forces.

In an advisory issued by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MI&B) on Saturday, all media platforms, news agencies and social media users have been urged to exercise 'utmost responsibility and adhere to existing laws and regulations' while reporting on defence and other security related actions "in the interest of the national security."

The ministry added that specifically 'no real-time coverage', dissemination of visuals, or 'sourced-based reporting' should be undertaken.

Noting that media, digital platforms, and individuals play a vital role in safeguarding national security, the ministry said that besides legal obligations, it is a 'shared moral responsibility' to ensure that our collective actions don't compromise ongoing operations or the security of our forces.

India-China thaw: After gap of 5 yrs, Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from June

JAYANTH JACOB @ New Delhi

AFTER a gap of nearly five years, India and China will resume the Kailash Mansarovar Yatra from June --- a move seen as an attempt to normalise their relationship after the border stand-off.

The External Affairs Ministry on Saturday said the Yatra is set to take place from June to August via two routes, Lipulekh Pass in Uttarakhand and Nathu La in Sikkim.

"This year, 5 batches, each consisting of 50 yatris, and 10 batches, each consisting of 50

yatris, are scheduled to travel through Uttarakhand State crossing over at Lipulekh Pass, and through Sikkim State crossing over at Nathu La Pass, respectively," the ministry said.

The pilgrimage was postponed in 2020 due to the COVID-19 and since then it could not be held due to the border tension between the two countries.

The resumption of the yatra is seen as a part of efforts by India and China to improve ties after the two completed the disengagement of troops at the two remaining friction points of Demchok and Depsang under a pact sealed on October 21, last year. Two days later, PM Narendra Modi and Chinese President Xi Jinping met in Kazan, Russia, where they agreed to revive key bilateral dialogue mechanisms to help ease tensions and rebuild trust.

SURVIVORS AND HEROES

AN INDIAN STORY OF GRIT & HUMANITY

Meadows I cover with flowers for you, Come, my lover of flowers!
Come, let me gather fresh jasmine for you,
Never return these hours!
Lilacs have bloomed by the river for you, Deeply the world is asleep, Still, though, no answer has reached me from you,
Garlands of green I keep.
What if they speak only evil of me?
Who has been able to change destiny?
Come, my lover of flowers!

BALA CHAUHAN

MANDAR PARDIKAR

THESE lyrics of 16th century Kashmiri poetess Habba Khatoon are like balm on a wounded soul. In the lush green valley, where the Lidder river flows like a reckless young woman in the laps of the snowy mountains, the blood of the dead, killed mercilessly on the afternoon of April 22 in the Baisaran meadows will never dry.

The 26 tourists — all men, young, middle aged and senior citizens — were shot dead by armed terrorists, who emerged from behind the thick woods and sullied the pristine air of the Valley forever. There were families, honeymooning couples, who had just tied the knot and had come to Kashmir to celebrate their wedding. That afternoon, it was as if people from across India had gathered in the meadows of Pahalgam to holiday. The victims included Sudip Neupane from Nepal, Syed Adil Hussain Shah, the guide and ponywallah and the lone bread winner of his family from Pulwama. There were six men from Maharashtra, three each from Gujarat and Karnataka, two from Bengal and one each from Uttarakhand, Uttar Pradesh, Haryana, Punjab, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Odisha, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala.

Women and children, including teenage boys, who saw their husbands, fathers and uncles being killed by gun-toting soulless men as they begged for mercy have returned home with a loss that none can fill and a void that stares at them like a harrowing memory. These are survivors of the tragedy that has come to haunt Kashmir after a long time since the abrogation of Article 370 in August 2019. Kashmir has risen in one voice against the terrorists' attempt to defile its name and land and have held protests against Pakistan and its nefarious designs to cut into the crown of India. For all the survivors, despite their individual and collective pain they have carried home memories of Kashmiri men, who helped them at the cost of their lives. Adil had left home early that morning as usual to take tourists to Baisaran, which is accessible only by foot or horseback. He never returned home that evening with the ₹300-₹400 daily earnings that would fetch some rice for the family and medicines for his ailing father.

NEWSMAKER

Adil took three bullets when he tried to snatch the firearm from one of the attackers while trying to save the lives of Kaustubh Ganbote and Santosh Jagdale from Maharashtra. The two men were not spared the bullets either, but not before Adil put himself in front of them. The bullets pierced his body and sucked the young braveheart's life away.

Sajjad Ahmed Bhatt, who was attending the funeral of his aunt near to the attack site, rushed as soon as heard of it and the video of him climbing down steadfastly the hilly terrain with a wounded boy on his back has become the anthem of India's unity in diversity, humanity and heroism in the face of the gun. Wasn't he scared for his life when he ran to rescue the victims? His answer was that it was his duty to do so.

"Insaniyat sabse bada mazhab hai (humanity is the biggest religion)," said Bhatt. He humbly added that there were other ponywallahs who had rushed to rescue people.

Rubeena and Mumtaza, the teenagers from the Gujjar Bakarwal community, ran to save the lives of some tourists, including a child. They offered shelter and water in their mud house, and guided them to a place of safety. This is what the terrorists, the conspirators and handlers from across the border will neither understand, nor will they be able to comprehend the spirit of India and its heroes.

The survivors have reached home, most of them with coffins of their loved ones. In the searing pain and agony of loss, they remember the brotherhood of Kashmir.

Arathy Sarath from Kerala, whose father N Ramachandran was shot dead remembers local drivers Musafir and Sameer, who drove her and her children to safety.

In this tragedy, Kashmir has given me two brothers, she said.

India plans to send 6 Royal Bengal tigers to Cambodia after monsoon

JITENDRA CHOUBEY @ New Delhi

IN its effort to become a global leader in wildlife conservation, India plans to send six Royal Bengal tigers — two males and four females — to Cambodia, likely after the monsoon season.

The National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) of India, in collaboration with the Wildlife Institute of India (WII), has been assisting the Cambodian government in preparing Cardamom National Park (CNP), located in the southwest region of Cambodia. Tiger has been declared extinct from Cambodia since 2007.

A senior government official from the NTCA stated, "After receiving a positive report on tiger-prey density—a critical factor in determining a site's capacity to support tigers—we are now relieved that our tigers can roar in Cambodia."

According to a report from

the US-based Global Conservation Organisation, the current tiger-prey density in the park can support at least four tigers. India has been supporting the Cambodian government in capacity building for the past four years to prepare the park for the arrival of Indian tigers. Both countries had signed an MoU in 2023 for introduction of tigers.

The official added, "After four years, our Cambodian counterparts are preparing a final action plan, which will be assessed by our team from the NTCA and WII before the monsoon, to prepare for the transfer of the tigers."

Indian officials will evaluate the action plan to determine how much the country will need to contribute on a regular basis. This includes planning regular visits from Indian conservators, developing a strategy to combat poaching, and engaging local communities. Ever since the tigers have been declared extinct, the government and an NGO working in the region have been preparing to reintroduce them to Southern Cardamom National Park.

The total number of ungulate species recorded throughout the research region was 1,170 individuals, mostly wild boar, followed by Indian Muntjac, lesser mousedeer, and mainland serow, said the report.

New norms to manage chronic liver disease

KAVITA BAJELI-DATT @ New Delhi

AS Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease (MASLD), the most common cause of chronic liver disease globally, is emerging as a serious health concern in the country, doctors have come out with guidelines for its diagnosis and management. The guidelines, published in the journal Diabetes and Metabolic Syndrome: Clinical Research and Reviews by Elsevier, provide evidence-based research for managing MASLD in Asian Indians with coexisting Type 2 Diabetes.

"These guidelines are necessary because Asian Indians show unique metabolic characteristics with higher liver fat deposition than other ethnic groups. India faces a 'dual epidemic' of T2D and MASLD, with each condition worsening the other," said Anoop Misra, Chairman of Fortis CDOC Center of Excellence for Diabetes, Metabolic Diseases and Endocrinology, Delhi, and the lead author of the guidelines.

MASLD, previously known as non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), has a prevalence ranging widely from 27.7% to 88.6% across different population sub-groups in the country.

Around 50%-60% of people with type 2 diabetes in India have poorly controlled glycemia, the concentration of sugar or glucose in the blood, creating a path for MASLD development.

"While guidelines exist for MASLD globally, none specifically address management in individuals with T2D," said Misra, adding MASLD also serves as an independent risk factor for cardiovascular disease.

The guidelines, which includes doctors from AIIMS, Sir Ganga Ram Hospital, and Medanta, said that in a systematic review and meta-analysis, the MASLD prevalence in average-risk Asian Indians was estimated to be 28.1%. In contrast, in high-risk Asian Indians (with obesity, diabetes), it reached 52.8%. The guidelines recommend screening all T2D patients for MASLD, particularly those with high-risk features like metabolic syndrome — a group of conditions that together increase the risk of cardiovascular disease, Type 2 diabetes and stroke — and obesity.

WHAT THE STUDY FINDS

1. Asian Indians show metabolic characteristics with higher liver fat deposition than other ethnic groups
2. Metabolic Dysfunction-Associated Steatotic Liver Disease (MASLD), previously known as non-alcoholic fatty liver disease (NAFLD), has a prevalence ranging from 27.7% to 88.6%
3. 50%-60% of individuals with type 2 diabetes have poorly controlled glycemia

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE

- Clinical evaluation should include BMI, waist circumference, and waist-to-height ratio
- Weight loss as a key factor
- Lifestyle modifications, including a diet comprising 50%-60% complex carbohydrates, 20%-30% fats (unsaturated), and 15%-20% proteins while limiting saturated/trans fats, refined carbohydrates, and added sugars
- Plant-based proteins such as legumes and nuts/seeds
- For non-vegetarians, fish and seafood, beneficial due to their omega-3 polyunsaturated fatty acids content
- Physical activity — **150-300** minute/wk of moderate or **75-150** minute/wk of vigorous activity
- Complete alcohol avoidance

VENGEANCE

A 21-year-old man was shot dead in Jaroda village in what police are calling a 'revenge killing'. The father of the victim has alleged that one Manish and three others killed his son Rahul on Thursday night.

3 KILLED IN CAR-TEMPO COLLISION IN RAJASTHAN

INDIA	Max	Min		Max	Min
Ahmedabad	42	28	Mumbai	33	27
Bhopal	38	23	Panaji	36	29
Jaipur	39	28	Patna	37	26
Amritsar	38	21	Lucknow	37	24
Chennai	32	29	Port Blair	31	26
Kolkata	36	27	Imphal	31	21
Srinagar	21	07	Chandigarh	39	21

Centre's decision to revoke visas issued to Pakistani nationals in India has left them and their families in limbo

Pak Hindu family moved to refugee camp in capital

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

A family of 15 Pakistani Hindus, who arrived in Jaisalmer, Rajasthan, last year, has been sent overnight to a camp near Majnu Ka Tila in Delhi by the state police. This decision follows a recent terror attack in Pahalgam.

The family, originally from Sindh in Pakistan, had spent time in Delhi before moving to Balsamand village in Haryana's Hisar district after contacting a local person who facilitated their relocation. They entered India through Rajasthan in last July. As their passports expired, the Pakistani consulate re-issued them in January of this year, and their visas were renewed.

On their return to the Delhi camp, they joined several other families who are also uncertain about their immigration status.

Sources indicate that the family was transported on a Haryana Police bus to Majnu Ka Tila, where they are likely to be sent back to Pakistan by April 27.

Despite working as daily wage labourers and earning very little, the family hoped never to return to Pakistan, where they often faced religious persecution. One family member expressed his disbelief at being sent back in this manner, saying as Hindus, they have faced continuous harassment and significant socio-economic hardships in Pakistan.

In Haryana, they rented land to grow vegetables, pulses, and fruits, and earned the trust of the local community. However, they are now left uncertain about their fate.

Shesh Karan, the in-charge of the Balsamand police chowki, confirmed that the family was handed over to the authorities in Delhi.

Passports were re-issued

The family had spent time in Delhi before moving to Balsamand in Hisar after contacting a person who facilitated their relocation. They had entered India through Rajasthan

More with similar fate

Sources said that many families from Pak are in India and are yet to get citizenship. According to rough estimates, while some hundred live near Majnu Ka Tila, another few hundred live near Signature Bridge in Delhi.

'How can I survive without my husband if deported?'

RAMASHANKAR @ Patna

THE Centre's decision to revoke all visas issued to Pakistani nationals has come as a bolt from the blue for them.

"I would rather die on the land where I was born (India) than return to Pakistan," so says a visibly despondent Nusarat Firoz (62).

Firoz — who married a Pakistani national named Firoz Akhtar in 1992 and moved across the border — returned to India with their three children after the death of her husband in 2012. Back in India, she and her children have spent more than a decade living with her brothers in Bihar's Patna.

"I have been here with my children for the last 13 years or so. I have got my daughter married in Patna. My two sons, who have finished studies, are doing well in life. The government directive to cancel the visas has upended our lives," she rues.

Firoz's is not an isolated case. Waziha from Pakistan's Karachi tied the knot with Tanveer Ahmad, an Indian national, in 2012. She has been living with her husband and three children in Bihar's Muzaffarpur since then. But her future hangs in the balance now. "I have been living here on an extended visa. I have not been to Pakistan since we got married." Waziha, a native of Pakistan's Sindh province, says, "Now, India is our 'mulk' (country)," she insists, expressing her reluctance to go back to Pakistan.

In a separate case, Aftab Alam, also a resident of Muzaffarpur whose family is in Pakistan, is anxious as he would not be able to meet his wife and their 10-year-old daughter now.

These are just some of the many Pakistani nationals and families bearing the brunt of the government move triggered by the Pahalgam terror attack.

OPERATION

Crackdown on, houses of 4 more terrorists razed

FAYAZ WANI @ Srinagar

IN continuing crackdown on terrorism days after the deadly Pahalgam attack that killed 26 people, security forces on Saturday blew up houses of four more terrorists while a massive operation has been launched across the Kashimr Valley and hundreds of suspects have been picked up for questioning.

The house of Lashkar terrorist Ahsan ul Haq Sheikh was blown up in Muran area of Pulwama district, of top TRF/LeT terrorist Shahid Ahmad Kuttay at Chotipora in Shopian, of Zakir Ahmad Ganie in Matalhama of Kulgam and of LeT terrorist Farooq Ahmed Tedwa, currently in Pakistan, in Kupwara. The houses of two Lashkar terrorists Aadil Hussain Thokar and Asif Sheikh, both linked to the Pahalgam attack, were blown up on Friday.

According to intelligence agencies, at least 14 local terrorists are active in the Valley. Of them, eight are associated with LeT and three each with Hizbul Mujahideen and Jaish-e-Mohammad. After the Pahagam attack, security forces have launched a massive crackdown against terrorists and their sympathisers.

"Initially the operation was confined to south Kashmir but it has now been extended to Srinagar and other parts of the Valley as well," a security official said.

The police, CRPF and Army have been conducting searches in Anantnag district in south Kashmir, targeting suspected terrorists' hideouts and support networks.

"So far, 175 suspects have been detained for questioning to dismantle the support networks," a source said.

Maha move: 5K Pak nationals in state, highest in Nagpur

SUDHIR SURYAWANSHI @ Mumbai

FOLLOWING the Centre's directives to deport Pakistani citizens after the recent Pahalgam terrorist attack, the Maharashtra government has taken action, instructing them to leave the country immediately. Data shows that there are 5,053 Pakistani citizens currently residing in the state of Maharashtra. Nagpur has the highest concentration at 2,458 individuals, followed by 393 in Jalgaon, 293 in Navi Mumbai, 290 in Pimpri Chinchwad, 117 in Amravati, and 14 in Mumbai.

Interestingly, search operations have revealed that 107 Pakistani nationals in the state are untraceable. The Government of India has suspended all 27 types of visas that were previously issued to Pakistani citizens for various purposes as of April 27.

The Central Government has instructed state authorities to identify Pakistani citizens and ensure that they leave not just the state but the the country as well.

State Home Minister, Yogesh Kadam, stated that police are actively searching for Pakistani citizens across Maharashtra. "We are working to trace the Pakistani nationals in the state. While most of them have been located, some remain untraceable. We have advised Pakistani citizens with short-term or SARAK visas to leave the country. Those with medical visas can remain until April 30 to complete their treatment. As we continue gathering information, the final count of Pakistani citizens in Maharashtra may change," Kadam explained.

Chief Minister Devendra Fadnavis confirmed that efforts are underway to collect information on Pakistani citizens in the state. "Local police stations are involved in this effort. Individuals who overstay their visas will face strict consequences. We will not spare anyone," Fadnavis stated.

Notably, as many as 26 people, mainly tourists, were killed on Tuesday in a terror attack.

VIGIL ENHANCED AT DAMS, HEAD WORKS IN PUNJAB

HARPREET BAJWA @ Chandigarh

IN the wake of escalating diplomatic tensions between India and Pakistan in the backdrop of the Pahalgam terror attack, security has been stepped up at key dams and head works across the Indus basin region in Punjab and Himachal Pradesh after India put the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) in abeyance.

Sources said an alert has been issued as intelligence agencies who flagged security threats to the Bhakra and Pong dams managed by the Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) and the Ranjit Sagar Dam Project (Thein Dam) maintained by Punjab irrigation department and several head works in both the states to guard against any untoward incident.

"The dams themselves may be resilient to terror attacks, but peripheral structures, transmission lines, other installations and employees might be targeted. More than physical damage, even a small incident can trigger panic," said a senior official on condition of anonymity.

Sources also pointed out, there have been incidents in Punjab in which grenades were hurdled at police establishments; 16 such incidents were reported and the state police recovered weapons and ammunition in operations, necessitating enhanced security measures.

In September last year, the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF) took charge of the security of the Beas Satluj Link Project at Mandi in Himachal Pradesh as 235 personnel of the paramilitary force were deployed at the site. The project is vital for irrigation, flood control, and power generation, serving millions of people. Sources said the CISF may replace Punjab and Himachal Pradesh police at Bhakra dam.

228 Pak nationals in MP told to leave India today

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE @ Bhopal

AS many as 228 Pakistani nationals living in Madhya Pradesh will have to leave India before the April 27 deadline set by the Centre, an official said on Saturday.

This follows India's decision to revoke all visas issued to Pakistani nationals amid heightened tensions between the two countries following the April 22 Pahalgam terror attack, in which 26 people were killed.

"As per the data we have with us, there were 228 Pakistani nationals in Madhya Pradesh. Our work is to inform them (the Centre) about such people," a senior state government official said.

Such people have to leave in keeping with the Centre's directive, he said. According to sources, Union Home Minister Amit Shah has asked the Chief Ministers of all states to ensure that no Pakistani national stays in India beyond the deadline. Shah reportedly told them to identify the Pakistani nationals living in their respective states and ensure their timely deportation.

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has stated that all existing valid visas issued by India to Pakistani nationals stand revoked with effect from April 27.

However, the move does not apply to the long-term visas already issued to Hindu Pakistani nationals. Besides, the medical visas will remain valid till April 29.

Hindu Pak nationals with long-term visas are safe

The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) has said that all existing valid visas issued by India to Pakistani nationals stand revoked with effect from April 27 while medical visas will be valid only till April 29. The move does not Hindu Pakistani nationals who have been issued long-term visas.

Over 1K B'desh nationals detained in Gujarat after Pahalgam terror attack

DILIP SINGH KSHATRIYA @ Ahmedabad

IN a major security operation following the Pahalgam terrorist attack, Gujarat Police detained over 1,000 Bangladeshi nationals across Ahmedabad and Surat for illegally residing in India using forged documents.

Authorities confirmed that all detainees lacked valid documentation and were suspected of using fake identity papers to secure residence in the state.

Teams from the Ahmedabad Crime Branch, SOG, Economic Offences Wing, Zone-6, and Police Headquarters jointly raided areas around Ahmedabad's Chandola Lake, detaining 890 suspects from 3 am onward.

Of those detained, 470 were men, while the remainder comprised women and children, police said.

Meanwhile, a parallel crackdown in Surat unfolded between midnight and 6 am, with over 100 police personnel deployed, including six specialised teams led by two DCPs, four ACPs, and ten PIs.

The Gujarat Police have taken a firm stance against individuals living in the country illegally. These people entered India through West Bengal using forged documents and have spread throughout Gujarat and other states.

Harsh Sanghavi, Gujarat MoS for Home

The Surat teams raided hotspots across Un, Sachin, Limbayat, Lalgate, and Salabatpura, targeting locations flagged for harbouring undocumented immigrants. By dawn, 135 suspected Bangladeshi nationals had been detained.

All detainees from Surat were transported to the Police Headquarters, where interrogation and document verification procedures are currently underway.

Gujarat Minister of State for Home, Harsh Sanghavi, hailed a "historic victory" after Gujarat Police carried out their largest crackdown yet, detaining 890 illegal Bangladeshis in Ahmedabad and 134 in Surat.

They entered India through West Bengal using forged documents, spreading across Gujarat and other states. Many are linked to drug cartels, human trafficking, and even sleeper cells like Al Qaeda operatives caught earlier, he added.

4 held in crackdown on J'khand terror networks

MUKESH RANJAN @ Ranchi

JHARKHAND's Anti-Terrorism Squad (ATS) have arrested four people from Dhanbad for their alleged links to banned terrorist organisations Hizb ut-Tahrir (HuT) and Al-Qaeda in the Indian Subcontinent (AQIS), officials said on Saturday.

The crackdown comes after the Pahalgam terror attack. The Centre had banned HuT under the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) on October 10, 2024.

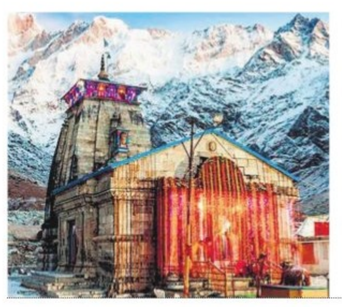
According to preliminary investigations, the arrested people were allegedly radicalising local youth via social media and the dark web. They were also reportedly involved in the illegal arms trade.

Acting on secret intelligence, the ATS launched coordinated raids at over 15 locations across Dhanbad, including Wasseypur and Noor Masjid area. "During the raids, two high-quality pistols, 12 cartridges, several mobile phones, laptops, and a large quantity of banned literature and documents linked to extremist organisations were recovered from their possession," said a statement from the state police headquarters.

The arrested individuals have been identified as: Gulfam Hasan (21), Aayan Javed (21), Md. Shahzad Alam (20) and Shabnam Parveen (20), who is the wife of Aayan Javed. All the four people are being interrogated by the ATS officials.

The HuT, founded in Jerusalem in 1953, has been active in promoting religious extremism.

77 Pak Hindus barred from undertaking Char Dham yatra



NARENDRA SETHI @ Dehradun

AFTER the Centre's directive to deport Pakistani nationals following the Pahalgam terror attack, the Uttarakhand government has barred 77 Pakistani Hindu pilgrims from undertaking Char Dham Yatra beginning April 30.

The Pakistani Hindu pilgrims had registered themselves for the pilgrimage. But the meadow massacre at Pahalgam shattered their spiritual hopes as authorities imposed a pilgrimage ban on Pakistani nationals.

Sources within the Uttarakhand tourism department's yatra division confirmed that besides Pakistan, registrations for this year's pilgrimage have been received from the US, Nepal, and Malaysia, among other countries. "For the Char Dham Yatra, which starts from April 30, online registrations have exceeded 21 lakh," Pradeep Chauhan of the Yatra Registration Division told this newspaper. "Among them, 24,729 foreign nationals have registered for the yatra, including 77 from Pakistan," he said.

The situation for the Pakistani registrants is complicated by heightened tensions following the terror attack on tourists in J&K's Pahalgam. The attack sparked widespread outrage across the country. In response, the Centre took strict measures, including stopping issuance of visas to people arriving from Pakistan and a directive for Pakistani nationals currently residing in India to return within 48 hours.

As many as 250 Pakistani nationals have been identified as residing in Uttarakhand, mostly in Dehradun, Haridwar, and Nainital. According to Director General of Police Deepam Seth, a majority of them are predominantly Pakistani Hindu citizens holding long-term visas. "Out of these, 247 have arrived on long-term visas and are mostly Pakistani Hindu citizens," the DGP said.

Action taken against 3 on short-term visas

Action has been taken against three Pakistani nationals staying on short-term visas. Two from Dehradun have already been sent back to Pakistan, and the third individual identified in Haridwar was repatriated on Saturday. Medical visas will remain valid until April 29.

50 arrested in Turkey over Opposition Mayor's graft case

GLOBAL WEATHER

LR: Light Rain • HR: Heavy Rain • LS: Light Snow • TDS: Thundershower • LC: Light Cloud • SNY: Sunny

Beijing	26	11	LC	Los Angeles	17	10	SNY
Colombo	32	25	TDS	Melbourne	18	13	LC
Dhaka	34	27	LC	Moscow	5	0	LC
Dubai	42	31	SNY	New York	14	6	LR
Houston	30	22	LC	Singapore	31	25	TDS
Istanbul	17	12	LR	Toronto	8	1	LC
London	17	8	SNY	Washington	23	8	TDS

Pallbearers carry the coffin of late Pope Francis at the end of the funeral ceremony at St Peter's Square in the Vatican | AFP

Pope laid to rest as 4 lakh mourners bid last goodbye

Funeral sets off 9 days of mourning, followed by election of successor

ROME

HUNDREDS of thousands of mourners joined world leaders, including US President Donald Trump, to bid farewell Saturday to Pope Francis, a champion of the poor who strived to forge a more compassionate Catholic church.

The Vatican said 400,000 people packed St Peter's Square and lined the streets of Rome for the funeral of the first Latin American leader of the world's 1.4 billion Catholics.

After a solemn funeral, the Argentine pontiff's plain wooden coffin — a testament to a life of humility — was driven slowly to Rome's Santa Maria Maggiore church, where he was interred in a private ceremony.

Cardinals marked his coffin with red wax seals before it was lowered into a tomb set inside an alcove, according to images released by the Vatican.

Guatemalan Maria Vicente, 52, holding a rosary, cried as she watched the coffin being carried into Santa Maria Maggiore, the pope's favourite Roman church. "It made me very sad. It's touching that he left us like that," she said. Fourteen white-gloved pallbearers carried the coffin into the church, as children placed baskets of flowers at the altar and a choir sang prayers. The marble tomb is inscribed with just one word: "Franciscus", his papal name in Latin.

Trump was among more than 50 heads of state at the funeral. He met several world leaders in a corner of St Peter's Basilica before the mass, notably Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy. Italian and Vatican authorities mounted a major security operation for the ceremony, with fighter jets on standby and snipers positioned on roofs surrounding the tiny city state. Red-robed cardinals and purple-hatted bishops sat on one side of the altar in St Peter's Square during the funeral, with world dignitaries sitting opposite. In front of the altar lay the pope's simple cypress coffin, inlaid with a pale cross.

The funeral set off nine days of official Vatican mourning for Francis, who took over following the resignation of Pope Benedict XVI in 2013.

After the mourning, cardinals aged under 80 will elect a new pope from among their number. Italian mourner Francesco Morello, 58, said the homily about peace was a "fitting, strong and beautiful message". *AFP*

Faithful mourning while attending Pope Francis' funeral ceremony at St Peter's Square in the Vatican | AFP

Trump raises doubts on Putin after brief talk with Zelenskyy

ROME

DONALD Trump and Volodymyr Zelenskyy met briefly in the hush of St Peter's basilica before Pope Francis's funeral on Saturday in their first encounter since a noisy White House clash and the US president later cast doubt on whether Russian leader Vladimir Putin wants a peace deal.

Zelenskyy said they discussed a possible unconditional ceasefire with Russia and was "hoping for results" from a "very symbolic meeting that has the potential to become historic". After leaving Rome, Trump indicated a new approach to the Russian president.

"There was no reason for Putin to be shooting missiles into civilian areas, cities and towns, over the last few days," Trump said in a post on his Truth Social platform. "It makes me think that maybe he doesn't want to stop the war, he's just tapping me along, and has to be dealt with differently, through 'banking' or 'secondary sanctions?' Too many people are dying!" The war cast a shadow over Francis's funeral. As it took place, Russia claimed its forces had "fully liberated" the border Kursk region.

Ukraine insisted however that its army was still fighting in Kursk, Russian territory which it hopes to use as a bargaining chip in any future peace talks.

Trump and Zelenskyy sat face-to-face, leaning forward in deep discussion in a corner of the basilica, as the pope's wooden coffin lay in front of the altar before the funeral began, according to images released by the Ukrainian presidency.

"We discussed a lot one on one. Hoping for results on everything we covered. Protecting lives of our people. Full and unconditional ceasefire. Reliable and lasting peace that will prevent another war from breaking out," Zelenskyy wrote on X. An aide to Zelenskyy described the meeting as "constructive" and the White House called it "a very productive discussion".

The US president flew out of Rome immediately after the funeral mass and there were no further talks. But the two leaders also briefly huddled inside the basilica with British Prime Minister Keir Starmer and Emmanuel Macron. *AFP*

Ukraine's President Volodymyr Zelenskyy meets US President Donald Trump on the sidelines of Pope Francis's funeral at St Peter's Basilica at the Vatican | AFP

Major blast at Iran port kills five, injures hundreds

TEHRAN: A powerful explosion ripped through a key port in southern Iran on Saturday, killing five people and injuring more than 700, state media said. Although the cause of the blast was not immediately clear, the port's customs office said in a statement carried by state TV that it probably resulted from a fire that broke out at the hazmat and chemical materials storage depot. State media reported a "massive explosion" at Shahid Rajaee, the country's largest commercial port, located in Hormozgan province on the southern coast. Footage on state TV showed thick columns of black smoke billowing from the port where many containers are stored, with helicopters deployed to fight the flames. Citing local emergency services, state TV reported that at least 516 people were injured and "hundreds have been transferred to nearby medical centres". "Unfortunately, at least four deaths have been confirmed by rescuers," the head of the Red Crescent Society's Relief and Rescue Organisation, Babak Mahmoudi, later told the broadcaster. Three Chinese nationals were "lightly injured", China's state broadcaster CCTV reported, citing its Bandar Abbas consulate. Iranian President Masoud Pezeshkian expressed sympathy for the victims of the deadly blast, adding he had "issued an order to investigate the situation and the causes", sending Interior Minister Eskandar Momeni to look into the incident. Images from the official IRNA news agency showed rescuers and survivors walking along a wide boulevard carpeted with debris. Flames engulfed a truck trailer and blood stained the side of a crushed car.Containers stacked at the port appeared to have buckled in the blast. AFP

ASIA MATTERS

Wong Warns of Foreign Interference

Prime Minister Lawrence Wong urged Singaporeans not to be influenced by foreign actors in the upcoming general elections. Addressing foreign interference, Wong condemned attempts to manipulate voters based on religious lines. He stressed the importance of keeping politics separate from religion, warning that identity politics would divide the country. Opposition leaders also rejected foreign influence and reaffirmed their commitment to a secular, multi-racial society. The elections are scheduled for May 3, 2025, with over 2.7 million registered voters.

Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike

Office of the Executive Engineer, Jayanagar Division, 39th Cross, 18th Main, Jayanagar-4th"T" Block, Bangalore-560041 Ph: 8022975711. E-mail : eejayanagarbbmp@gmail.com

No.E.E.(JN)/DM/e-proc/01/2025-26 Dated: 24.04.2025

INVITATION FOR SHORT TENDER (TWO COVER)

(Through GoK KPP Portal https://kppp.karnataka.gov.in only)

The Executive Engineer, Jayanagar, Division, BBMP, invites tenders on behalf of the commissioner, BBMP, Bengaluru from eligible Bidders from the reputed and experienced contracting agencies who are experienced in the collection of parking fee in the table below.

S.N.	Name of the work
1	Collection of parking fees at Jayanagara shopping complex (Call-4). **EMD :** Rs.1,70,349/-. **Type of Contract :** Lump sum cost

Calendar of events: 1) Last Date and Time for uploading tenders in e portal : On 08-05-2025 Upto 16:00 P.M. 2) Date and Time of Opening Technical Biding in the e-Portal: On 09-05-2025 at 16.05 PM. 3) Date and Time of Opening Financial Bid in the e-Portal : On 12-05-2025 at 16.05 P.M. or After Technical bid approval.

Sd/- Executive Engineer, Jayanagar Division

SOUTHERN RAILWAY

E-TENDER NOTICE No: SR-TVC0SnT(TEND)/3/2025/02, Dated : 23.04.2025

Senior Divisional Signal & Telecommunication Engineer, Southern Railway, Thiruvananthapuram- 14 for and on behalf of The President of India invites e-tenders for the following works.

Sl. No.	Tender No.	Name of work
1.	TVC-SNT-SIG-25-26-01	Annual Zonal Contract for Signal & Telecom gears for FY 2025-26 under the jurisdiction of ASTE/TVC KVU (Excl.)- MQU-KCVL-TVC-NYY-KZT-ERL-NCJ-CAPE-AAY-VLY-SGLM-TEN(Excl.) in TVC Division
2.	TVC-SNT-SIG-25-26-02	Annual Zonal Contract for Signal & Telecom gears for FY 2025-26 under the jurisdiction of ASTE/QLN section MNTT (Excl.)-PVRD-VARD-KRPP-ETM-KTYM-CGVCGY-TRVL-CNGR-MVLK-KYJ-CHPD-OCR-KPY-STKT-PRND-QLN-PVU-VAK-KVU (Incl.) TUVR (Incl.)- SRTL-MAKM-ALLP-AMPA-HAD-CHPD in TVC Division.
3.	TVC-SNT-SIG-25-26-03	Annual Zonal Contract for Signal & Telecom gears for FY 2025-26 under the jurisdiction of DSTE/ERS section (SRR (Excl.)- VTK-MGK-PNQ-GUV-TCR-PUK-IJK-CKIAFK-AWY-KLMR-IPL-ERN-TRTR-MNTT (Incl.)- ERS-CHTS-KUMM-TUVR (Excl.) in TVC Division.

Sl. No.	Cash value (Approx) (Rs.)	Earnest Money Deposit (Rs.)	Last Date for Receipt of Tender	Completion period
1.	25,00,000.00	50,000.00	15.05.2025 upto 14.00 hrs	12 months
2.	65,00,000.00	1,30,000.00	15.05.2025 upto 14.00 hrs	12 months
3.	55,00,000.00	1,10,000.00	15.05.2025 upto 14.00 hrs	12 months

Complete details & tender document will be available at www.ireps.gov.in

Sr.DSTE/TVC

WESTERN RAILWAY

Material Management Department

VARIOUS MATERIALS SUPPLY

E-PROCUREMENT TENDER NOTICE No. S/23/2025 Date 22.04.2025

S.N.	Short Description of items	Quantity	T.O.D.
198	Main Compressor	97 Nos	21-May-25
199	Single phase to three phase	50 Nos	21-May-25

CORRIGENDUM

Please read the due date as **"28.04.2025" for the tender notice no. S-16-2025 dated:-21.03.2025 at Sr. No. 151**

Regarding detailed notice EMD, Purchase restrictions and detailed tender conditions, please visit website www.ireps.gov.in and wr.indianrailways.gov.in. 0077

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PUBLIC NOTICE

The General Public are hereby notified that my clients propose to purchase the Schedule Property from the owner, **Mr.K.Raju,** S/o Mr. Kariyappa Gounder, Resident of:# 45, 2nd Cross, Brundavan Nagar, Thavarekere Road, Bangalore -560 029.

The owner acquired title by registered Sale Deeds and Confirmation Deeds and proposes to sell the Schedule Property to our clients and therefore any person or persons, government authority/statutory authority, have any claims over the Schedule Property or objections for the proposed sale transaction may lodge their claims/objections with attested copies of documents so as to reach the undersigned ***within 15 (fifteen) days*** from the date of publication of this notice, failing which thereafter my clients shall as bonafide purchaser proceed to complete the sale transaction and any claims/objections received beyond the stipulated period will not be entertained by our clients.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

ITEM No.1: All that piece and parcel of the **residentially converted undeveloped land bearing Survey No.171/2, [Old Survey No.171],** situated at Gattahalli Village, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, **measuring 31 Guntas,** {converted vide Official Memorandum dated 24.11.2015, No.ALN {ASH} SR11/2015-2016, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District} presently situated within the revenue administrative jurisdiction of Shanthipura Grama Panchayat.

East by: Property of Muniraju
West by: Property of K.Raju (previously Property of Annaiyappa)
North by: Property of Neeruganti Maddurappa
South by: Road.

ITEM No.2: Residentially converted undeveloped land bearing bearing **Survey No.171/3, [Old Survey No.171],** situated at Gattahalli Village, Sarjapur Hobli, Anekal Taluk, Bangalore District, **measuring 31 Guntas,** {converted vide Official Memorandum dated 03.09.2014, No. ALN {ASH} SR37/2014-2015, issued by the Deputy Commissioner, Bangalore District} presently situated within the revenue administrative jurisdiction of Shanthipura Grama Panchayat and bounded as follows:

East by: Property of Venkatappa;
West by: Property of Yeshodhamma
North by: Property of Muniswamy;
South by: Road

N.JAIPRAKASH RAO, VEENA RAO, N.ASHOK KUMAR
JAYPEE ASSOCIATES 'LAW FIRM'
38, "KRISHNA", I Cross, Malleswaram, Bangalore-560 003.
Ph: 080-23560365, 23468742,Mobile: 9448809185
Email: veenajaypee@gmail.com, contact.jaypee1234@gmail.com
Date: 27.04.2025 Place: Bangalore.

STATE BANK OF INDIA

STRESSED ASSETS RECOVERY BRANCH(SARB), BANGALORE

Authorised Officer's Details:
Name: Smt.Jayalakshmi
Chief Manager
Mobile No: +91-99451 43159
Landline No.(office):080-25943663
E-mail – sbi.05173@sbi.co.in

3rd Floor, Building No. 11/90, Opp. Trustwell Hospital Near Old Shivaji Theatre, JC Road, Bangalore 560002
Landline No: 080 -25943663/3664
CCO: Mrs. Sandhya - Mob: 8291975239

APPENDIX-IV-A

[See proviso to rule 8(6)]

Sale Notice of Sale of Immovable Property
(Excluding movable assets, if any, lying in the premises)

E-Auction Sale Notice for sale of Immovable Asset (Excluding movable assets, if any, lying in the premises) **under the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 read with proviso to Rule 8(6) of the Security Interest (Enforcement) Rules, 2002.**

Notice is hereby given to the public in general and in particular to the Borrower (s) and Guarantor (s) that the below described immovable property mortgaged/charged to the Secured Creditor, the Physical possession of which has been taken by the Authorised Officer of State Bank of India being the Secured Creditor, will be sold on **"As is where is", "As is what is", and "Whatever there is"** basis on **28.05.2025** for recovery of **Rs.46,22,982/-** (Rupees Forty Six Lakh Twenty Thousand Nine Hundred and Eighty Two Only) as on 05.12.2024, with future interest, costs expenses etc. due to the State Bank of India, SARB, JC Road,Bangalore, from Borrower **1. Mr. Kannan Naidu G.** S/o Govindaswamy Naidu No. 55, 3rd Main, 11th Cross, Shreyas Colony, J P. Nagar 7th Phase, Bangalore 560 078. and also at: No.498, Harinagar Hamlet, Kothanur Village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk Bangalore and **2. Guarantor Mrs. Suguna P.** W/o Ravi.K Residing at No.49/2, 5th Cross, 3rd Main, Srinidhi Layout,Konanakunte, Bangalore 560062.

The Reserve price, Earnest Money Deposit (EMD), Bid increment amount and time of E-auction and the Last date for submission of EMD along with KYC documents for immovable property to be sold will be as under:

Reserve Price	EMD to be deposited	Bid increment	Date and Time of E-auction	Last date for receipt of EMD along with KYC Documents
Rs.67,20,000/-	Rs.6,72,000/-	Rs.50,000/-	28.05.2025 11.00 A.M. to 04.00 PM	27.05.2025 upto 5.00 AM

DESCRIPTION OF IMMOVABLE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of the property bearing No.498, in Katha No. 1202, New BBMP 'B' Katha Sl. No. 324, New Katha R.D.A. No. 42, Property No. 1202/498, Sy. No. 156, Situated at Harinagar Hamlet of Kothanur village, Uttrahalli Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, now comes under the limits of Bruhat Bangalore Mahanagara Palike, Bangalore, measuring East to West, 40 Feet, and North to South 30 Feet, in all measuring 1200 Square Feet.(As per document) As per Actual, East to west, towards East 30 feet and towards West 21 feet, North to south 40 feet, in all 1020 Square Feet.
and Bounded on the: East by:Puttappa's Property,West by:Road, North by: Muniyellamma's Property,South by: Kuri Muniyamma's Property.
Absolute Sale Deed No. JPN-1-08217-2014-15, Dated: 31.10.2014

STATUTORY 30 DAYS SALE NOTICE UNDER "SARFAESI" ACT, 2002.

The Borrower /Mortgagor is hereby noticed to pay the sum mention above within 30 days from the date of publication of this notice failing which the Bank shall sell the properties as per the provisions laid down in the SARFAESI Act, 2002.
For detailed terms and conditions of the sale, please refer to the link provided by the secured creditor represented by the Authorised Officer, State bank of India, SARB, Bengaluru i.e.1.http://www.baanknet.con 2. www.sbi.co.in
For further details regarding inspection of the propertied the intending bidders may contact the Authorised Officer as mentioned above or Bank's Approved Resolution Agent M/s Sri Vari Business Consultant India Pvt Ltd. Bangalore Representative: Mr. Mohan Kumar C Mob:9916804586
To the best of knowledge of the Authorised Officer, there is no encumbrance on any of the above said properties.

Date: 24.04.2025
Place: Bengaluru

Sd/-Authorised Officer
State Bank of India,
Stressed Assets Recovery Branch, Bengaluru

Chola — Enter a better life

CHOLAMANDALAM INVESTMENT AND FINANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Corporate Office: "Chola Crest", C54 & C55, Super B-4, Thiru Vi Ka Industrial Estate, Guindy, Chennai-600032, T.N., India.
Branch Addres :-Door No. 625, 1st Floor, Old Madras Road, Medahalli, Vironager Post, Near K R Puram, Bangalore - 540049

DEMAND NOTICE UNDER SECTION 13(2) OF THE SECURITISATION & RECONSTRUCTION OF FINANCIAL ASSETS AND ENFORCEMENT OF SECURITY INTEREST ACT 2002

You, the under mentioned Borrower / Mortgagor is hereby informed that the company has initiated proceedings against you under the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act, 2002 and that the Notice under 13 (2) of the Act sent to you by Registered Post Ack. Due for Borrower/s has been returned undelivered. Hence, you are hereby called upon to take notice and pay the outstanding loan amount mentioned against the said account with interest accruing there from within 60 days from the date of this publication, failing which the company will proceed against you by exercising its right under Sub-Sec (4) of Section 13 of the Act by enforcing the below mentioned security to realize its dues with interests and costs. It is needles to mention that this notice is addressed to you without prejudice to any other remedy available to the company.

Sl. No.	Loan Account No. & Name and Address of the Borrower/s	Loan Amount(s)	Date of Demand Notice & Amount Outstanding
1.	Loan Account No's: ML01RAK00000065708 :- **1.Mohandas Shetty (Applicant), 2.Sujatha Shetty (Co-Applicant),** Both at No.19 Deepa Flour Mill Road, Near Eshwara School, Nagashettyhalli, Bangalore - 560094., **3. Sujatha Shetty (Co-Applicant),** Nagodi, Hosanagara, Shivamogga, Karnataka - 577452., **4. Mangalore Fish Stall (Co-Applicant),** No.212/4, Opp Muneshwara Temple, D.Rajagopal Road, Nagashettyhalli, Bangalore - 560094.	Rs. 22,00,000/-	17/04/2025 & Rs.23,65,767/- as on 17/04/2025 together with interest thereon.

SCHEDULE 'B' (SCHEDULE OF PROPERTY):All that piece and parcel of the property bearing E-Khatha No.41-514-861,Assessment No.7379/25, Situated at ward No.07,A.K.Colony, K.T.Mudiyappa Layout, Kadur Town, Kasaba Hobli Kaduru Taluk, chikkamagalur District, Presently within the limits of Kadur TMC, Measuring East to West 9.144 Meters and North to South 12.192 Meters, in all measuring 111.483 Squre meters and along with building constructed thereon, and bounded on : East by : Vacant Property, West by : Govt Road, North by : Timmappa's Property , South by : Govt. Road

Date: 27-04-2025
Place: Bangalore/ Shimogga

Sd/- Authorised Officer
Cholamandalam Investment And Finance Company Limited.

ଓଡ଼ିଶା ବିଦ୍ୟୁତ୍ ଶକ୍ତି ସଂଚାରଣ ନିଗମ ଲିଃ
(ଓଡ଼ିଶା ସରକାରଙ୍କ ଏକ ଉପକ୍ରମ)

ODISHA POWER TRANSMISSION CORPORATION LIMITED
(A Government of Odisha Undertaking)

CAD- Regd. Office: OPTCL Tech Tower, Janpath, Saheed Nagar, Bhubaneswar-751007

NOTICE INVITING E-TENDER

Bids Are Invited Under Single Stage Two Part System From Bidder :

Sl. No.	E-Tender Notice No:	Tender Description:
1	01 of 25-26	Comprehensive Planning, Drawing & Design for construction of Sports Enclave within OPTCL Colony, Bhoinagar under Civil works Circle, Bhubaneswar.
2	CPC-42/2023-24	Procurement of ACSR Panther, Zebra & Moose conductor and GI earth wire.
3	ED-CZ-BBSR-01 /2025-26	Engineering, Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning for Diversion of 132kV Boudh-Phulbani D/C line due to construction of By Pass road to Phulbani town of NH 157.
3	CGM(Tel)-01 /2025-26	Supply, Erection, Testing and Commissioning of equipment for data and speech communication between JSPL, Angul & SLDC, Bhubaneswar through OPGW.

Complete set of bidding documents are available at **www.optcl.co.in**.

/optcl.odisha /optcl_odisha **HIPR-05/2025-26**

SOUTH WESTERN RAILWAY

OPEN TENDER NOTICE NO 07/SBC/25 of 15.04.2025 Through E-tendering

The undersigned, on behalf of the President of India, invites E-Tender (IREPS) for the following work.

SN	Name of work	Approx.Value
1	Bengaluru Dharmavaram section: Construction of boundary wall for a length of 26.2 km in connection with the work of increasing sectional speed from 110 kmph to 130 kmph. Maintenance period is 12 months (Two packet)	Rs. 21,55,83,667
2	Bengaluru - Sampige road section: Construction of boundary wall for a length of 14 km in connection with the work of increasing sectional speed from 110 kmph to 130 kmph. Maintenance period is 12 months (Two packet)	Rs. 11,51,97,379
3	Assistant Divisional Engineer/Yesvanthpur sub-division: Proposed supply of Potable water for a period of 2 years (Malleswaram Sampige road, Yesvanthpur-Yelahanka, Yelahanka Chintamani, Channasandra-Rajanukunte sections)	Rs. 1,08,00.000
4	Bengaluru Sampige road section: Proposed construction of RUB of size 7.5m x 4.65m in lieu of LC No. 48 at Km 81/500- 600 between Mallasandra and Gubbi stations by launching method (Double track). Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later. (Two packet)	Rs. 10,60,40,438
5	Chikka Banavara - Hassan section: Proposed new Bridge No. 39-A at Rly km 20/750 near Nelamangala station - RCC box size 1m x 5.0m x 4.25m by Box pushing method (Deposit work for Yettinahole project division No. 4). Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 2,07,65,877
6.	Bengaluru Salem section: Construction of FOB (Foot over Bridge) at Toppur (TPP) station. Maintenance period is 12 months	Rs. 2,20,81,473
7	Bengaluru- Salem section: Slope stabilization by wire netting of slopes in cuttings from km 50/ 500-600 between Toppur (TPP) and Muttampatti (MPC) stations in SSE/ PWAY/ DPJ(S) section. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 4,25,09,056
8	Chikka Banavara section: Strengthening of bank by providing standard width and improving drainage at isolated locations from 3/870 to 79/530 (SL) for a length of 16.65 km. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 1,59,11,060
9	Divisinal Engineer/ South/Bengaluru Sec :Cess repair/ widening work in connection with the work of Bengaluru-Salem section sec: Strengthening of bank by providing standard width and improving drainage at isolated locations from km 68/100 to 143/400 SL for a length of 17.26 km". Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period whichever is later.	Rs. 1,62,13,883
10	Divisinal Engineer/South/Bengaluru sec: Manufacturing, supply and stacking of machine crushed track ballast at PRNT (Periya nagathunnai) depot including loading in connection with the work of Bengaluru-Salem section sec: Complete track renewal (p) of existing 52kg rails on 52kg PSC of 1540 nos/km with 60kg/90 UTS rails and 60kg wider base sleeper of 1660/km for a length of 20.2 km from km 45/000-54/000, 55/100-900 and 56/100-66/500 (SL) in Assistant Divisional Engineer/Dharmapuri section	Rs. 2,74,30,830
11	Chikka Banavara section : Through Ballast Recoupment (TBR) for a length of 7.473 km in the loop lines of Assistant Divisional Engineer/ Kunigal section	Rs. 87,39,091
12	Bengaluru Salem section: Slope stabilization by widening of slope of cuttings from km 33/100-600, 40/250-450 and 45/750-950 in SSE/PWAY/TPP between Karuvalli (KVLR) and Muttampatti (MPC) stations. Maintenance period is 6 months or one monsoon period	Rs. 7,91,18,735

Last date for Submission of bids : **Upto 15.00 hrs on 12.05.2025**

For details log on : **www.ireps.gov.in**

PUB/55/AAD360/PRB/SWR/2025-26

Senior Divisional Engineer/Co-Ordination, Bengaluru

South Western Railway - SWR SWRRLY SWRRLY

171 Mn people India has lifted from extreme poverty in the decade between 2011-12 and 2022-23, the World Bank said

Gold bonds yield 109% returns

With 2.5% annual interest, a holder of SGB would make 18% average annual return from investment

RBI has fixed premature redemption price for sovereign gold bond at ₹9,600 per unit for redemption on April 28

Premature redemption

Last week, retail price of the safe haven asset had crossed psychological ₹10,000/10 grams mark

Under govt guidelines, SGBs offer investors an early exit option after completing five years from the date of issuance

Any profits realised from redemption are exempt from taxes if held until maturity

THE UPCOMING REDEMPTION NEXT MONDAY IS OF THE SGB SERIES I OF **2020-21** AND WAS ISSUED ON **APRIL 28, 2020**

THIS IS 109% APPRECIATION OVER THE INVESTMENT MADE IN 2020-21

BAN KOCHUVEEDAN @ Mumbai

THE Reserve Bank has fixed the premature redemption price for the sovereign gold bond (SGB) at ₹9,600 per unit for redemption on April 28 — a full 109% appreciation over the investment made in 2020-21. Last week, the retail price of the safe haven asset had crossed the psychological ₹10,000/10 grams mark.

With 2.5% annual interest, a holder of the SGB would make an 18% average annual return from the investment.

The upcoming redemption next Monday is of the SGB series I of 2020-21 and was issued on April 28, 2020.

The SGB calculates the redemption price based on the simple average of the closing gold price of 99.9 purity over the preceding three business days, as published by the India Bullion and Jewellers Association. Accordingly, the prices from April 23, 24, and 25, 2025, are considered to arrive at the final redemption figure of ₹9,600/gram.

Since the inception of the SGB scheme way back in November 2015, under the gold monetisation scheme to offer an alternative investment to physical gold, close to as much as 146.96 tonnes of gold was issued/raised through 67 tranches, amounting to Rs 72,274 crore. Since July 2024, when the tax on gold imports were slashed by 9 percentage points to 6%, the RBI has announced premature redemption for SGBs issued between 2017 and 2020.

Earlier last week, the RBI had also announced premature redemption prices for two other SGB series —series IV of 2017-18 and series II of 2018-19 both of which became eligible for early redemption last Wednesday. These bonds, issued on October 23 of their respective years, had similarly completed their minimum five-year tenure, allowing investors to exit at the next interest payment cycle.

Under the government guidelines, SGBs offer investors an early exit option after completing five years from the date of issuance, even though the overall maturity period is eight years. For series I of 2020-21, issued on April 28, 2020, the five-year lock-in ends this month, enabling eligible bondholders to redeem their holdings ahead of maturity.

Sovereign gold bonds continue to be a popular investment option for individuals looking to gain exposure to gold without the challenges of physical storage. The scheme provided an annual interest rate of 2.5% and potential capital growth tied to gold prices. SGBs have an eight-year term, with the option for investors to redeem them early starting from the fifth year. Early redemption is permitted only on particular interest payment dates, which occur twice a year. Any profits realized from redemption are exempt from taxes if held until maturity.

Apart from offering assured annual interest of 2.5% on the initial investment, SGBs also enjoy capital gains tax exemption if held till maturity, making them a tax-efficient tool for long-term investors.

If the early redemption window is missed, investors will not lose their investment as the bonds will continue to accrue an annual fixed interest rate of 2.5% until it matures in eight years. Investors also have the option to sell the bonds in the secondary market at current market prices.

The interest earned on SGBs is taxable as its classified as income from other sources and taxed according to your applicable income tax slab rate, meaning it is added to your total income and taxed at the marginal rate. But if redeemed prematurely through the RBI's designated window of five years of holding—the proceeds are fully exempt from long term capital gains tax. But if you choose to sell SGBs in the secondary market instead of using the RBI redemption route, you will have to pay capital gains tax along with applicable surcharges.

Two SGBs launched in 2016 have already matured in 2024.

Since July 2024, the government has redeemed six tranches of SGBs, with 61 tranches remaining outstanding, and the final redemption scheduled for February 2032.

The July 2024 budget projected that government liabilities on gold bonds would be Rs 85,000 crore by the end of this fiscal, almost nine times the number in FY20. The duty cut led to a massive 6% plunge in domestic gold prices hugely benefitting the government in redemption payout. Yet the first redemption gave the investor a premium of 122%.

In the first-ever SGB redemption on 5 August 2024 (issued on August 10, 2016) the RBI bought back 3.75 tonne and another 3.6 tonne on 23 September 2024 in the second tranche. In the third redemption it brought back 8 tonnes.

The SGBs yield an annual interest of 2.5% payable half yearly and the redemption price is the average weekly price of the metal in the previous trading week. The interest is taxable but no capital gains tax.

NEWSCOPE

HOW LIFTING TARIFFS WILL IMPACT INDIA

GURBIR SINGH

US Vice President J D Vance has just completed his 4-day visit to India. There was much bonhomie with that added touch since his wife, Usha, traces her ancestral origins to Andhra Pradesh. There was sightseeing too, at Jaipur and the Taj Mahal; and Prime Minister Modi entertained the family presenting peacock feathers to each of the 3 Vance children.

But beyond the public spotlight, the visit kicked off hard negotiations for a trade deal that India hopes will avert the US' onerous 26 percent across-the-board tariffs. These are on a 90-day pause now; but they will kick in from 8 July if there is no deal by then.

President Donald Trump has been highlighting that India must drop tariffs specifically on US agricultural products, automobiles and whiskey. While both Trump and Prime Minister Modi describe each other as 'friends', the former has often come down heavily on India's trade barriers with epithets such as 'tariff abuser' and 'tariff king'.

The current body language however indicates India is perhaps closer than others to a bilateral trade agreement. After Vance's visit, Trump told reporters in his Oval Office that India is on course to lower tariffs on American goods. On its part, India has been cautious not to displease Trump. In fact, it has bent backwards not to impose or even threaten retaliatory measures even after he declared 26 percent imposts on Indian goods.

In a display of accommodation, India began its roll back early. Post the Union budget, the government in February lowered duties for bourbon whiskey to 100 percent from 150 percent, while for imported motor bikes above 1600cc, duties were slashed from 50 to 30 percent. Currently, the government is mulling reduction of customs duty on heavy duty bikes to zero as a special concession for Harley-Davidson. The company's exit from India over high import duty during Trump's first presidency, has been a pet peeve of the President.

Hard negotiations

But it is unlikely these overtures are going to impress US negotiators. They have indicated, the US is not for piecemeal concessions, but an across-the-board deal that opens up Indian markets and bridges the current yawning trade deficit in India's favour.

The US is India's largest trading partner, and trade between the two in calendar 2024 amounted to a whopping $129 billion. However, while US exported $42 billion worth of goods to India, Indian exports

MANDAR PARDIKAR

to the US amounted to $87 billion, a deficit of $45 billion. India's average tariff rate is 17 percent, compared with 3.3 percent by the US. For farm products it is notably higher. On walnuts it is 100 percent.

On the face of it, this looks discriminatory against the US; but its not really an apples-to-apples comparison. The US is a developed economy, with access to technology and diversified markets. India, on the other hand, is still a developing economy. Millions of micro and small enterprises (MSMEs), who offer the bulk of the jobs, are still struggling to find markets and consumers. Can they compete with their counterparts in the US?

Sample how this is panning out for the e-commerce market. In a recent report, the Financial Times (FT) said the US administration is going to be pressing hard for online retailers like Amazon and Walmart to the allowed full access to India's $125 billion e-commerce market. Currently, Amazon and Walmart cannot hold inventory, or produce or market goods directly to consumers. They operate as a 'neutral' online 'marketplace' or platforms on which Indian vendors can sell their goods and services.

The rationale of these e-commerce rules is to shield small traders, and millions of kirana and mom-and-pop neighbourhood stores, and prevent their obliteration by giants such as Amazon. If its open season for Amazon and Walmart, as the Trump administration is demanding, trade associations fear the big retailers with discounted prices will shut out the small operators.

Farm economy

However, it is in the area of reducing tariffs on farm products that the Union government will find it most difficult to give in to US demands. Over the last 4-5 decades India has emerged as a robust farm exporter and accounts for as much as 40 percent of the world's rice exports. Agriculture has been growing at a trot of 4-5 percent annually. To protect Indian farmers from a flood of imported farm goods, high tariffs have been in place.

The US which currently sells walnuts and other dry fruits as well as luxury fruits such as apples in India, wants these barriers to be lifted to gain access to the lucrative Indian market. However, it must be remembered that meddling with farm policies is far more difficult than making changes in e-commerce rules. Though agriculture contributes about 20 percent of India's gross domestic product (GDP), as much as 46-50 percent of the workforce is dependent on this sector.

Removal of farm tariffs followed by a flood of US and foreign products is bound to face resistance from farmers' organizations. The recent rolling back of farm laws after years of protest is still strong in the nation's memories.

A taste of what might come was on display when the US vice president's India visit sparked protests in villages with his effigy being burnt and farmers holding signboards: "Go back, Vance."

M&M acquires 58.96% stake in SML Isuzu for ₹555 crore

ARSHAD KHAN @ New Delhi

HOMEGROWN automaker Mahindra & Mahindra (M&M) will acquire a 58.96% stake in SML Isuzu for ₹555 crore at ₹650 per share — a 63% discount to the latter's closing price of ₹1,789 on Friday.

The deal values SML Isuzu, which had a market capitalisation of ₹2,557 crore at the end of last week, at a significant discount.

As part of the transaction, M&M would acquire the entire stake of 43.96% held by Sumitomo Corporation, promoter of SML, and separately also acquire 15% stake held by Isuzu Motors Ltd, public shareholder of SML. M&M would launch a mandatory open offer for the acquisition of up to 26% stake from eligible public shareholders of SML in accordance with the SEBI Takeover Regulations.

The proposed acquisition, as per M&M, is a step towards establishing a strong presence in the 3.5 tonnes and plus commercial vehicle (CV) segment, where it has a 3% market share, as against a 52% market share in 3.5 tonnes light CV segment. M&M feels the acquisition will double market share to 6%, with a plan to increase this to 10 - 12% by FY31 and over 20 by FY36. Incorporated in 1983, SML Isuzu is a listed company with a strong vintage and pan-India presence in the trucks and buses segment. SML has a market-leading position in ILCV Buses segment, with 16% market share.

It reported operating revenue of ₹2,196 crore and EBITDA of ₹179 crore in FY24. It has profitable operations, frugal manufacturing, and strong engineering capabilities.

Anish Shah, Group CEO & MD of Mahindra Group, said the acquisition of SML Isuzu marks a major milestone in the Group's vision of delivering 5x growth in emerging businesses. "This acquisition is aligned with our capital allocation strategy for investing in high potential growth areas which have a right to win and have demonstrated operational excellence," he stated.

Rajesh Jejurikar, executive director and CEO of auto and farm Sector at M&M, said, "This is a pivotal step toward our ambition to become a full-range, formidable player in commercial vehicles by enhancing market coverage, unlocking operating leverage through platform consolidation, a unified supplier and network base, and better plant utilisation. Together, we are well-positioned to scale rapidly and drive profitable growth."

The transaction, including the open offer, is subject to the approval of the Competition Commission of India and is expected to be completed within 2025 in accordance with SEBI Takeover Regulations. Kotak Investment Banking is acting as the financial advisor to M&M and manager to the open offer. Khaitan & Co acted as legal advisor to M&M.

India Cements Q4 net profit at ₹14.68 crore

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

INDIA Cements Ltd, which was acquired by Aditya Birla Group recently, on Saturday reported a consolidated net profit of ₹14.68 crore for the quarter ended in March 2025. It had reported a net loss of ₹60.55 crore in the January-March period a year ago, according to a BSE filing.

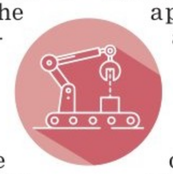
Revenue from operations was down 3.11% to ₹1,197.30 crore in Q4FY25. This was at ₹1,235.74 crore in the corresponding quarter last financial year. Total expenses were at ₹1,313.2 crore, down marginally in the quarter. Total income, includes other income, fell by 2.52% to ₹1,255.66 crore in Q4FY25. For the financial year ended on March 31, 2025, It reported narrowing of its net loss to ₹143.88 crore from ₹227.34 crore in FY24.

Total income was at ₹4,357.41 crore in FY2, down 13.81% compared to the previous year. UltraTech Cements, the country's leading cement maker, in December last year acquired the promoters' stake in The Indian Cements Ltd, making the South India-based cement player its subsidiary with effect from December 24, 2024.

Electronics makers asked to set up design teams

ENS ECONOMIC BUREAU @ New Delhi

THE Minister for Electronics and Information Technology, Ashwini Vaishnaw, on Saturday said electronics component makers must set up design teams and achieve Six Sigma quality standards to avail benefits under the government's new incentive scheme.



Launching the Electronic Components Manufacturing Scheme (ECMS) guidelines, the minister emphasised that the ministry would consider these factors while approving applications. "I request every participant in this scheme to set up a design team. While we have not made it a formal approval criterion, I am making it clear that it will serve as an informal condition for approval," Vaishnaw said during the launch of the ECMS portal and guidelines.

Six Sigma is a method that helps improve quality by reducing mistakes, cutting down differences, and making work more efficient. While highlighting industry practices, the minister said some companies have already established design teams comprising up to 5,000 engineers. He urged manufacturers to achieve the highest standards in product quality.

"We will assess your progress not only on manufacturing volume but also on the quality you deliver," the minister said.

SER celebrates World Heritage Week

Kolkata: South Eastern Railway is observing World Heritage Week at its Headquarters, Garden Reach from 18-04-2025 to 25.04.2025. Every year April 8 is observed as World Heritage Day to spread awareness about our rich cultural diversity and importance of preserving ancient heritage. The theme for World Heritage Day 2025 is "Disasters and Conflict Resilient Heritage – Action in relation to safeguarding Heritage". A seminar on World Heritage has been organised at SER headquarters as a part of the celebration on 24.04.2025. Soumitra Majumdar, AGM & Chairman, Zonal Heritage Committee, SER welcomed guest speakers on diverse prospective on Railway heritage and to promote heritage conservation awareness.

SER observes fire safety week

Kolkata: South Eastern Railway started observing Fire Safety Week from 21.04.2025 to 26.04.2025 following laid down guidelines of Ministry of Health & Family Welfare in coordination with Directorate, General Fire Services, Civil Defence, Home Guards and Union Ministry of Home Affairs to enhance awareness, preparedness and compliance with fire safety norms across health care facilities nationwide. The theme "Unite to Ignite, a Fire Safe India" started off with a demonstration on fire suppression system by local fire brigade authorities in front of administrative building which was witnessed by Anil Kumar Mishra, GM/SER, Soumitra Majumdar, AGM/SER, Anjana Malhotra, PCMD/SER, medical fraternity of the headquarters with all principal head of the Departments and their staff.

Business & Beyond

JSPM University launches Centre for Competitive Examination Studies

JSPM University, Pune, marked a major milestone on April 21, 2025 which marks The National Civil Services Day, with the inauguration of its Centre for Competitive Examination Studies (CCES). The centre aims to prepare and empower aspirants from diverse academic backgrounds to excel in UPSC, MPSC, and other competitive examinations. The inauguration ceremony was graced by Mahesh M. Bhagwat, IPS, Additional Director General of Police (Law & Order), Telangana, as the Chief Guest, and Dr. Sonali Jawanjal, IRS, Deputy Commissioner of Customs, Pune, as the Guest of Honour. The dignitaries were warmly introduced by Mr. Milind Gandhe, Chief Coordinator of the Center. The event was held in the esteemed presence of Dr. Ravi Joshi, President, JSPM University; Prof. B. B. Ahuja, Vice Chancellor; Mr. Vishal Choudhary, Registrar; Dr. Ajit Thete, University's Governing Body Member and former Joint Director of Technical Education,

Fire Safety Awareness Week successfully concludes at PPA

The Fire Safety Awareness Week, observed across Paradip Port with the aim of enhancing public understanding and preparedness for fire-related emergencies, has concluded successfully. Throughout the week, starting on April 14, 2025, the Paradip Fire Department, in collaboration with local organisations and community volunteers, conducted a series of initiatives to educate residents, businesses, and institutions on fire safety measures. The campaign focused on theme "Unite, to ignite a fire safe India", emphasising importance of proactive measures and community involvement in preventing fires and ensuring swift and safe responses when they occur.

LIC Housing Fin cuts lending rates by 25 bps, loans get cheaper

Mumbai: LIC Housing Finance, India's largest housing finance company, has announced a 25 bps cut in LIC Housing Prime Lending Rate (LHPLR), following recent rate cut by the RBI. This reduction will benefit existing and new borrowers by making home loans more affordable. The revised rates will start from 8% and will come into effect from April 28, 2025. The LHPLR serves as benchmark rate for determining rates on LIC HFL loans. Tribhuwan Adhikari, MD & CEO of LIC HFL, said, "The rate cuts are in line with RBI's decisions and current market scenario. We believe this move will boost consumer sentiments and stimulate housing demand, especially among the affordable homebuyers."

Djokovic crashes out in Madrid Masters opener

Novak Djokovic fell 6-3, 6-4 to Italian Matteo Arnaldi in the Madrid Masters on Saturday. It was a third straight defeat for the Serbian, seeded fourth in Madrid, who followed a loss in the Miami Masters final on March 17 with a defeat in his opening match in Monte Carlo on April 7.

STUBBS. SPECIAL.

The South African is fast-becoming one of the best T20 middle-order bats in the world. Gomesh S talks to former Proteas all-rounder and Warriors head coach Peterson to understand the making of the DC batter...

PIC: SPORTZPICS

> He's probably the perfect guy that bats at the death because he can hit sixes behind and up the ground, over cover, and can slog sweep the spinners. He's got a great game for consistency with the high striker in T20 cricket.
>
> — Coach Robin Peterson

Sunday Special

IT was February 21, 2021. Warriors were playing Dolphins at Kingsmead, Durban in the CSA T20 Challenge. Sitting in the dugout were Robin Peterson and a 20-year-old Tristan Stubbs. On his professional T20 debut, Stubbs was nervous and the Warriors head coach was trying to calm the nerves. Peterson had seen the youngster, who was a Eastern Province player, during a net session a few days back. Not a match or a competition, but a net session where they were looking for a T20 batter. The sound of Stubbs' bat stayed with Peterson. And it did not take long for him to be convinced that Stubbs was special, and he was it. "When he hit the ball, it sounded a bit different from his bat. You sort of recognise that sound. When you've played for a long time and you've played with players like AB de Villiers and the way it made a similar sound when he struck a ball, we brought him into the team," Peterson recalls in a chat with this daily.

Neither Peterson nor the Warriors felt the need to ease Stubbs in. They knew he was ready to take the field. That he had all the makings to be successful at the highest level — strong build, unwavering work ethic, impressive bat swing and hand speed. Soon, he was in the Kingsmead dugout with Peterson, watching his teammates go about their business. And Peterson made a throwaway comment to help him relax. "Mate, it doesn't matter if you get out. Try and hit your first ball for a six," he told the youngster. Stubbs may not remember it now, but that is exactly what he did. He took guard, and on his first ball in professional T20 cricket, smashed Ottneil Baartman over the boundary. It was just one of many moments that announced and defined the way Stubbs was and is as an athlete. Always brave enough to take the risk while leaving no stone unturned to be skilled for whatever the sport throws at him.

Four years on, he is doing exactly that for Delhi Capitals in the Indian Premier League. He bats in the middle-order, builds momentum and provides the necessary finish his team needs. It is what Stubbs has done for every team he has turned out across the world in this format. It is why DC, a team that went through a complete overhaul, retained the 24-year-old — their only overseas retention. Stubbs can stand tall in his crease and launch pacers who bowl hard lengths back over their heads. He can reverse-scoop them behind the stumps when they go full. He is not your textbook batter. Nor is he an Andre Russell-like hitter. But he is just as effective if not more. His record in the death overs of the IPL tells how much. In the last three editions, Stubbs has faced 109 balls in death and has smashed 287 runs at 263.33. The runs and strike-rate are one thing but what can blow one's mind is that he has played six, just six, dot balls. Of the six, one came in 2025 against Chennai Super Kings. It was a missed reverse-scoop off Mukesh Choudhary in the 19th over after hitting a four and a six on the previous two deliveries.

It shows how Stubbs' madness has a method. One that he has worked hard to hone with multiple people. At the core of it are the range of shots that Stubbs has, the angle he creates and the hand speed that he possesses. Stubbs' father, Chris, was a hockey player and it dominated his childhood. Cricket in summer and hockey in winter. Peterson explains how the unorthodox positions he gets into while maintaining shape, especially against spinners, comes from hockey. "The positions he gets into, slog sweep, there's a lot of hockey. His ability to slice the ball is and even that, it particularly helps him with his square shots of the wicket, like reverse sweeps, his slog sweeps of the spinner. The ability to use your feet and work the ball, deflect the ball into gaps. A lot of it has to do with hockey," he says.

While Peterson has been an integral cog in Stubbs' career growth so far, the youngster has tried to learn and improve with every person and every opportunity he gets. His Grey High School coaches Richard Gilbert and Michael Smith worked through the younger years, Runeshan Moodley has a part in building his strength. When he felt the need for it, Stubbs reached out to Julian Wood and started working with him on his power-hitting. Even in this year's IPL, Stubbs told broadcasters how he is trying to pick Kevin Pietersen's brain as much as he could. "He's a hard worker, man. First at net, last to leave. He's curious. He asks questions. You know, he's always trying to get better and thinking about his game. You do not need to talk about whether it's getting into the gym, doing runs, the volume of balls, being very diligent around his game. That is something that he self-regulates. The only thing that I try to do is I keep trying to push him to shift the boundaries. How many games can he win like he did? I've watched him now in the IPL, even the winning runs in the Super Over (against Rajasthan Royals). Those are some things that we talk about. Be there at the end, you know. There's no point in getting the score, but you don't see the team over the line," said Peterson.

Indeed. So far in this season Stubbs has seen through DC twice and has set the platform, chipping in with crucial cameos on several occasions. But as Peterson says, it is only the beginning. The best of Stubbs is yet to come. For he is going to be one of the stars for world cricket in the coming decade.

Stubbs record in IPL death overs since 2023

Year	Inn	BF	Runs	SR	Os
2023	1	8	9	112.5	3
2024	7	75	223	297.33	2
2025*	3	26	55	211.53	1
Total	11	109	287	263.33	6

*Till DC vs LSG on April 22

Battle of margins

With the table getting heavy at the top, teams look to edge past one another and stay in contention. A look at Sunday's double-header

MUMBAI SEEK MOMENTUM

When Mumbai Indians get on a roll, it is hard to stop them. Lucknow Super Giants would be very much wary of them as they take on MI at Wankhede in the day fixture. Both on ten points and from hereon, every win becomes twice as significant.

THE PRODIGAL SON RETURNS

The last time DC played RCB, KL Rahul showed why he is at home in Bengaluru. Now, it's Virat Kohli's turn. The senior batter who got the stadium packed for a Ranji game earlier this year would want to show why he is Delhi's prodigal son.

KRUNAL'S INFLUENCE

For someone who is predominantly known as a utility player with the ball, Krunal Pandya has stood out for RCB. He has become their lead spinner and will come in handy against Delhi at the Arun Jaitley Stadium on Sunday night.

Mumbai Indians vs **Lucknow Super Giants**, Mumbai | 3.30 PM

Delhi Capitals vs **Royal Challengers Bengaluru**, New Delhi | 7.30 PM

LIVE ON STAR SPORTS AND JIOHOTSTAR

Rain acts as dampener after PBKS' dazzling opening show

EXPRESS NEWS SERVICE

IT was raining fours and sixes at the Eden Gardens on Saturday. Punjab Kings openers Priyansh Arya (69) and Prabhsimran Singh (83) were the forces behind that as the duo smashed the Kolkata Knight Riders bowlers all over the park in the Indian Premier League. The duo put on an opening-wicket stand of 120 runs, helping Punjab finish with a competitive score of 201/4 in the process.

The intent was clear from ball one of the contest after Punjab skipper Shreyas Iyer won the toss and opted to bat first. Vaibhav Arora was at the receiving end as Arya hit a cover drive to find the boundary ropes to kick off Punjab's innings. The left-handed batter repeated the drill in the last ball of the opening over. Chetan Sakariya then delivered a tidy over, giving away just three runs. However, Arya was in no mood to be held back as he cracked two more fours off Arora's second over. That was just the start as Prabhsimran joined the party with a six off Sakariya's second over. Harshit Rana was not spared either as he was welcomed with a four and a six by Prabhsimran. The duo briefly went into watchful mode after the spinners — Varun Chakravarthy and Sunil Narine — were introduced. Arya did manage to clear the ropes once against Varun during that phase. Arya was once again at his best once the pace of Harshit was re-introduced in the 10th over. After Narine was hit for three sixes in the 11th over, the away side were on course for a big score.

PBKS opener Priyansh Arya (R) celebrates his fifty with Prabhsimran Singh | AP

Just when it seemed like Punjab would take the game away from Kolkata, the defending champs broke the partnership. Arya, while trying to keep up the six-hitting template, miscued a slower off-cutter by Andre Russell. Prabhsimran took over and blasted five fours and two sixes in the next two overs to up the run-rate before being sent back by Arora.

The home team's bowlers then did well to keep Punjab batters, Shreyas (25 n.o) and Glen Maxwell (7), in check after that. Maxwell fell to the guile of Varun in the 17th over. In the end, Punjab ended with a score above 200.

In reply, Kolkata were 7 for no loss when rain stopped play. Later, around 11 pm, the match was called off. **Brief scores:** Punjab Kings 201/4 in 20 ovs (Prabhsimran 83, Priyansh 69; Vaibhav 2/34) vs Kolkata Knight Riders 7/0 in 1 ovr (match called off).

'Haven't been able to get it right in auction'

ASHOK VENUGOPAL @ Chennai

CHENNAI Super Kings in the 18th edition of the Indian Premier League have been a shadow of their former selves. Constant chopping in the team and mid-season acquisitions are things new to the think-tank.

On Friday, as CSK lost their fourth game at home, to Sunrisers Hyderabad, their campaign has all but come to an end. Head coach Stephen Fleming wore a resigned look as he reflected on what has been a disappointing season. He even went on to admit that they probably did not get things right at the auction. "Looking at how the game is evolving, it's not easy. That is why we are proud of our record today. We have been consistent for so long and it doesn't take much for it to go another way. Other teams have gotten better and that is the point of the auction. But we just haven't been able to get it right," said Fleming after Friday's defeat of Chennai against Hyderabad.

"It is a very fluid beast. It's like buying 25 houses and seeing it come away at the end of it mentally and sometimes physically exhausting. We're not that far away from getting the right eleven. And we have just struggled really to nail a game plan. We've chopped and changed too much. So yeah, there is a lot of responsibility and soul-searching and it certainly starts with me at the top, 100%," he added.

Chennai Super Kings head coach Stephen Fleming | SPORTZPICS

Apart from the auction itself, injury to Ruturaj Gaikwad, missing Devon Conway, poor form of Rachin Ravindra only added to their issues. So much so that they had to draft in 17-year-old Ayush Mhatre and Dewald Brevis as replacements. CSK had hoped that their experienced bunch Rahul Tripathi, Deepak Hooda, Vijay Shankar and Ravindra Jadeja would perform. But they didn't live up to the expectations.

Full story: newindianexpress.com

EXPRESS READ

Double delight for shooter Shambhavi

NEW DELHI: Maharashtra teenager Shambhavi Kshirsagar captured two gold medals and a silver medal in the Kumar Surendra Singh Memorial Shooting Championship here. The 16-year-old won the women's 10m air rifle event before going on to win her second gold in the youth category. She also won a silver medal in the junior category.

India assured of 43 medals at Asian meet

AMMAN: Four more pugilists qualified for the semifinals as India were guaranteed a haul of 43 medals in the Asian U-15 & U-17 Boxing meet. Aman Siwach (63kg), Devansh (80kg) became the latest to enter the last-four stage in the U-17 boys' section. Simranjeet Kaur (60kg) and Himanshi (70kg) — girls' division — also put up strong shows.

Indian women's hockey team loses to Oz 'A'

PERTH: The Indian women's hockey team lost 3-5 against Australia 'A' in its opening match of tour Down Under here. India scored through Mahima Tete (27th minute), Navneet Kaur (45th) and Lalremsiami (50th), while Neasa Flynn (3rd), Olivia Downes (9th), Ruby Harris (11th), Tatum Stewart (21st) and Kendra Fitzpatrick (44th) scored for Australia 'A'.

Kaur and Co seek strong start

With India and Sri Lanka kick-starting the ODI tri-series on Sunday, a look..

ROAD TO WC BEGINS

Although they are the co-hosts and a lot is left to be finalised, in terms of venues and schedule, India women's road to the 2025 ODI World Cup begins here. As a team that has experimented a wee bit, they expect this series to give them a blueprint of their roster for the next few months.

EYES ON PRATIKA

Since coming into the Indian team, Pratika Rawal has barely put a step wrong. Runs has been her currency and she will want to continue her good work at the top. For she would be aware that a lull could make way for Shafali Verma to make a comeback.

CAN RANA MAKE A MARK?

She has been in and out of the setup for a while now, but Sneh Rana's latest comeback is crucial considering the format being her USP. With Deepti Sharma blowing hot and cold, the senior offie would be keen to make a statement in this tour.

SRI LANKA vs INDIA, COLOMBO | 10 AM

LIVE on FanCode

Tough day for Aditi; Liu takes lead

AGENCIES @ Houston

INDIAN golfer Aditi Ashok endured a difficult second day at the Chevron Championship, the first women's Major of the year, as she finished with a round of two-over par 74 here. Put alongside her first round even par 72, she was two-over for 36 holes and on the cut line. At the time of going to press, nine players were yet to finish the second round.

Recent Epson Tour graduate Yan Liu held onto the top spot at the end of the second round as Haeran Ryu slipped down the order to tied sixth. Liu played even par for the day as she made three bogeys and a rare albatross on the front nine. On the back nine Liu dropped a bogey on the 17th and picked a birdie on the 18th. Lindy Duncan moved up 32 places with a round of 5 under par to sit at tied second alongside Sarah Schmelzel, Mao Saigo and Hyo Joo Kim.

Aditi Ashok | AFP

Shubhankar misses cut

HAINAN (CHINA): India's Shubhankar Sharma was unable to build on his good start as he shot 3-over 75 in the second round and missed the cut at the Hainan Classic golf tournament here. His 69-75 meant he was even par for two rounds.

Theegala and Rai in top 10

AVONDALE: Sahith Theegala holed a 10-footer for an eagle and with his teammate Aaron Rai, he moved into top 10 with a second round 69 at the Zurich Classic of New Orleans.

Jackson ends drought as Chelsea boost top five push in Premier League

AGENCIES @ London

CHELSEA boosted their bid to qualify for the Champions League as Nicolas Jackson ended his 13-game goal drought to seal a crucial 1-0 win against Everton on Saturday.

Jackson struck in the first half at Stamford Bridge to get back on the scoresheet for the first time since December. The Blues' second successive Premier League win was vital to their attempt to finish in the top five. Despite the much-needed result, it was another nervous afternoon for Enzo Maresca, who insisted this week that his first season at Chelsea has not been a failure after criticism of the Italian's conservative tactics. Maresca barely celebrated last weekend's 2-1 win at Fulham, leaving the pitch immediately after the final whistle in a move that was interpreted as a response to mounting abuse from frustrated supporters.

The former Leicester manager's cautious game plans have irked fans, who have jeered Maresca and his players several times this season. Maresca is adamant he deserves respect for his work at Chelsea, who finished sixth under his predecessor Mauricio Pochettino last term. Chelsea are still not firing on all cylinders, but an uplifting climax is within reach as they aim to seal a place in the Champions League and win the UEFA Conference League.

Chelsea's Nicolas Jackson (R) rejoices after scoring against Everton | AFP

Ipswich relegated

Later, Ipswich Town were relegated from the EPL after slumping to a 3-0 defeat against Newcastle. Alexander Isak converted a penalty after Jacob Murphy was fouled by Julio Enciso in first half stoppage-time. Dan Burn's 56th-minute header doubled Newcastle's lead and William Osula's 80th-minute goal left Ipswich with no chance of beating the drop.

Results (EPL): Wolves **3-0** Leicester; Newcastle **3-0** Ipswich; Brighton **3-2** West Ham; Soton **1-2** Fulham; Chelsea **1-0** Everton. **Bundesliga:** Hoffenheim **2-3** Dortmund; Bayern **3-0** Mainz; Leverkusen **2-0** Augsburg.

Three cheers for Palace

WEMBLEY: Crystal Palace marched into the FA Cup final with a 3-0 victory over Aston Villa here. Eberechi Eze scored the opener in the 31st minute before a second-half double (58', 90+4') by Ismaila Sarr.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Mr. Ajay M. Sarode and Mrs. Mamta Ajay Sarode, purchased through Sale Deed dated 15/11/2011, registered as document No. SRI-1-02269-2011-12, in the office of the Sub Registrar, Srirampura, Bengaluru, a residential Apartment bearing F-1001, in Tenth Floor of Marigold Block forming part of "The Gardens", having a Super Built up area of 1769 square feet, with exclusive right of usage of Car Parking Slot No. F-1001 in the Upper Basement Level, constructed on Property having Municipal No. 9 (Old Numbers 1, 3, 4, 5, 5/1, 6, 7, 7/1, 8, 8/1 & 9 situate at Binnyston Garden, Magadi Road, Bengaluru. The said sale deed is lost in transit and SBI has lodged a Lost Article Report No. 1556643/2025 on 08/04/2025 with the Karnataka State Police.

It is hereby requested to the general public that, if anybody comes across with the above said original sale deed, the same may be returned to the undersigned within 7 days from today. General Public is hereby informed that anybody dealing with the said property based on the lost/misplaced document in any manner whatsoever, will be doing so at their own cost, risk and liability and the said owners and/or SBI will not be held responsible in any manner for any such transaction/s.

B.N. Tulsi Kumar, Advocate,
No. 1020, (New No. 18/1), 11th Main Road, Hampinagar, Bengaluru - 560 104.
Mob.: 9845811922
bn.tulsikumar@gmail.com

SOUTH CENTRAL RAILWAY

Follow us on @SCRailwayindia
Details of the Tender Notices of S.C Railway can be seen on our website : www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

T N. No. 16/2025.Dt.25.04.2025.
SUPPLY OF STORES ITEMS

PUB/0446

E-procurement Tender Notice

The following, Tenders have Been floated online. Tenderers are requested to visit the website **www.ireps.gov.in** and submit their offers online. The Tender Description, Qty, EMD, SD may be seen in website. offers submitted manually will not be accepted, Offers by post will not be entertained, Tender Closing time is 14:30 hrs of the Due date of the Tender. "For all indigenous offers, EMD will be accepted only via online system as available on **www.ireps.gov.in**

Tender No	Brief Description
66248342	TM spares-plasser make
30253649	Hex Head Bolt
66255084	TM Spares-plasser make
LN255552	SS Fire Extinguisher's
25254617	AOH Replacement kit bottle VCB type-22
66248602	TM Spares-plasser make
25254624	IOH Replacement kit
66247450	TM Spares-plasser make
66247650	Dredger Drum Gear Box
60255741	C.I.Brackets to Drg.No.T-8985
29251246	Kits for E-70 Brake Control Unit
38251587	Slack Adjuster Type IRSA-600
25254836	IOH Kit for tap changer consisting
66255019	TM Spares-plasser make
38252185	Snubber springs for casnub
6025PT001A	RC for ERC Mk-V(T-5919)
60255335	PSC Sleepers for sharp curves to T-8979 to 8982

Note: Due dates of Tender Opening: SL.No.01 on dt.05.05.2025.SL.No.02 on dt 08.05.2025. SL.No. 03 & 04 on dt.14.05.2025 SL.No.05 on dt 15.05.2025.SL No.06 on dt .19.05.2025 SL No.07&08 on dt .20.05.2025. SL No.09 to12 on dt .21.05.2025. SL No. 13 on dt .23.05.2025. SL No.14 to16 on dt .26.05.2025.SL No. 17 on dt .27.05.2025.

Beside Above Mentioned Tenders There Are Other Tenders Having Value Above Rs. 50 Lakhs for details Please Visit Railway Website Above.

Principal Chief Materials Manager, Secunderabad

Open e-Tender Notice No. Dy.CE/ GS/SC/2025/OT. Dt: 25-04-2025

PUB/0447

For and on behalf of President of India, the undersigned invites e-tender for the following works:

1.e-Tender No.: 01_GS_SC_25_OT **Name of the work** : Secunderabad Division - GSU - Kazipet - Balharshah section – Proposed Construction of two lane Road over Bridge in lieu of LC Nos 9,11,15,16 & 17 with Bow string steel Girder on Railway Span with RCC deck slab and Approaches with Precast PSC girders/Slabs/RE wall with Precast Pier caps over Cast-in-situ Piers/Abutments along with LHS between Hasanparti Road - Uppal - Jammikunta stations. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 1423527645.78 **EMD :(₹)** 7267600.00 **Completion period in Months:** 18 **Bid closing date :** 22-05-2025

2. e-Tender No.: 02_GS_SC_25_OT **Name of the work** :SW-1: Earth work in formation, Extension of existing minor bridges, Laying and Linking of BG track, assembling and insertion of points and crossings,supplying, leading and dumping of stone ballast and miscellaneous works for proposed shunting neck towards Wadi end at Chittapur on SC-Wadi section.PH-4200-SW-2: Earth work in formation, Extension of minor Bridges, Laying and Linking of BG track, assembling and insertion of points and crossings, supplying, leading and dumping of stone ballast, Construction of service building & sheds for sick line and parking, construction of path ways, construction of approach road and miscellaneous works for proposed Freight train examination facilities at Chittapur on SC - Wadi section. **Approx. Tender Value in : (₹)** 138363533.97 **EMD: (₹)** 841800.00 **Completion period in Months:** 12 **Bid closing date :** 22-05-2025

1. Tenderers should participate through e-tendering only and no manual offers may be considered.
2. All the prospective tenderers are requested to remit EMD through online payments only.
3. The Railway reserves the right to cancel the tender without assigning any reason thereto.
4. All the prospective tenderers are advised to get GSTIN identification Nos. and submit along with their offer.

Dy.CE/Gati Shakti/ Secunderabad

PUBLIC NOTICE

The petitioners **Smt. Manjula W/o late Nagaraja, Smt.Asha D/o late Nagaraja W/o Narasimhamurthy, and Sri.Chethan.N S/o. late. Nagaraja** have filed the above petition seeking death certificate of **Chikkakkayyamma @ Chinnakkayyamma W/o late.Muniyappa died on 26-06-2023** at Kannamangala Village, Kasaba Hobli, Devanahalli Taluk, Bangalore Rural District, If any parties who have objections in dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble Principal Civil Judge and J.M.F.C at Devanahalli and the date of hearing **on 04-06-2025 at 11.00 A.M, in C.Mis.No.197/2025.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Narasimhamurthy .K, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

I the undersigned advocate on behalf of my clients **Sri. N.Devaraja S/o Late.Nanjappa,** aged about 53 years, R/at: No.18/2, Kamakshamma Layout, 1st Main, Guru Raghavendra C.D. Store, Yelahanka, Bengaluru North, Bengaluru, Karnataka-560064, presently residing at:- No.90, 6th Cross, Sy.No.42, Beside B.S.F.S.T.S, Kodagahatti, Hunasamaranahalli post, Bengaluru Urban District and others have filed the above petition for the death certificate of Late.**D.Raghavendra S/o N.Devaraja who died on 24.03.2023** at No.90, 6th Cross, S.V.S. Homes, B.S.F. S.T.S. Road, Bagaluru Cross, Bengaluru City, Karnataka. If any parties who have objections may dispute regarding the same can appear before the Hon'ble Additional Civil Judge and JMFC at Devanahalli and the date of hearing **on 4.6.2025 at 11.00 A.M. in C.Mis No.208/2025.**

By Order of the Court, Sd/- Chief Ministerial Officer
Civil Judge & JMFC Court, Devanahalli
Haseen Taj, Advocate

PUBLIC NOTICE

LOSS OF ORIGINAL SALEDEED

This is Notify that my client **C K Manickam** S/o MR. C.A.Karupannachari residing at no. 66, C.R.C. Road, Chamarajpat, Bangalore-560018 Karnataka. Mob no. 9902353739

My client **C K Manickam** S/o Mr. C.A.Karupannachari has lost the original sale deed bearing registered document no. 27, in the year 1986 book No-1, volume 1273, page no. 289 to 292 in respect of plot no. 2 on extent of 1500 sq ft of Vacant site schedule bounded as follows. East: Plot no. 1 West:plot No. 3 North:Sy no. 28/43 South: 23 feet common road. (With in these bounded measuring) East to West on North Side:30.0 feet East to West on South Side: 30.0 Feet. North to South on East Side :50.0 Feet. North to South on West Side: 50.0 Feet.

Above mention property situated at IN MOTHAM AGRAHARAM village of Hosur taluk, krishnagiri district, attached to thereign , district of Krishnagiri and sub registration district of Hosur the land bearing Join Patta old owner name Rangappa S/o Chinnarangappa Old Survey no. 29/2, New survey no. 29/2A/A/A/A, AND PATTA NO. 145 Dry Ext Hec 1.28.5 asst. 4.36np out of this extent of 2.00 acer land has been converted in to house plots, now mentioned above property belongs to **C K Manickam** S/o C.A.Karupannachari as same were misplaced while shifting the house,in spite of my client best efforts the same were not traced out till the date, and registered online complaint dated 20.04.2025.

If anybody finds the above document, or having possession of same may be returned to the undersigned. Further if any person having possession of the document may not be returned and misused the document against the law, my client not liable to that act, and my client has entitled right to taken legal steps against illegal act from anybody / any person, further if any objection the same may be lodged in writing within 7 days from the date of this public notice to the below mentioned address.

Santhosh Kumar H R, Advocate
#81/82, 1nd main road, 1st cross, 9th block, 2nd stage, Nagarabavi,Bangalore-560072
Ph. 9845357004

PUBLIC NOTICE

Our Client intends to take on lease the property detailed in the Schedule below ("Schedule Property"), from its owners, **Mrs. N. Veena and Mr. R. Chandrashekhar.** Any person/s having any manner of right, title, claim, tenancy, mortgage, charge, lien or any other interest of whatsoever nature in respect of the Schedule Property, may file their objections, with documentary proof, to the undersigned, within 14 (fourteen) days from the date of publication of this notice.

If no objections are received within the said period, it shall be deemed that none else have any right, title, claim, tenancy, mortgage, charge, lien or any other interest of whatsoever nature in respect of the Schedule Property, and our Client will proceed to complete the proposed leasing transaction proceeding on the basis that the abovementioned personsare the absolute owners of the Schedule Property.

SCHEDULE

All that piece and parcel of the lands bearing Survey Nos. 17/1, and Survey No. 17/2, totally admeasuring about 1 acre and 32 ½ guntas equivalent to 78,952.50 square feet, situated at Hoodi Village, K.R. Puram Hobli, Bangalore East Taluk, Bangalore, presently under the administrative jurisdiction of the BBMP, and bounded on:

East by : Land in Survey No. 183 belonging to G. Jayadev (Euro School);
West by : Land in Survey No. 17/1 (Sumadura Apartments);
North by : Survey No. 15 (Godrej Oxyrich Apartments);
South By: Road and Portion of Land in Survey No. 17/1 & 2 belonging to Chinnappa Raju;

I.S. Devaiah
Partner, **MD&T Partners**
No. 80, 1st Floor, 6th Main, 16th Cross, Gayatri Devi Park, Vyalikaval Extension, Bengaluru - 560 003.
Tel: +91 80 2346 6529, Date: 27-04-2025

PUBLIC NOTICE

This is to bring to the notice of the general public that our client is interested in purchasing residential property bearing Site No.270 (earlier Site No.104 and before that Plot No.6), Property No.6868/54/6/104, EPID No: 2050249331, presently coming under Ward No.84 (Hagaduru) situated on Borewell Road, Whitefield, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 52 Feet and North to South: 104 Ft., (North: 52 Ft., South: 52 Ft., East: 104 Ft., West: 104 Ft.) and totally measuring **5408 Sq. Ft,** more fully described in the Schedule hereinunder and hereinafter referred to as Schedule Property, from Mrs. Surekha Reys, D/o Late Joseph LB Reys.

Any person/s claiming to have any right, title or interest in and over the Schedule Property or any part thereof detailed below or has any objection to the proposed purchase of the Schedule Property, should lodge his or her claim or objections, if any, in writing, supported by authentic documentary evidence to the undersigned, within fifteen days from the date of publication of this notice, failing which, our client will proceed to conclude the purchase of the Schedule Property and any claims or objections lodged and received after the expiry of the above stipulated period will not be binding on our client in any manner.

SCHEDULE PROPERTY

All that piece and parcel of residential property bearing Site No.270 (earlier Site No.104 and before that Plot No.6), Property No.6868/54/6/104, EPID No: 2050249331, presently coming under Ward No.84 (Hagaduru) situated on Borewell Road, Whitefield, Bangalore, measuring East to West: 52 Feet and North to South: 104 Ft., (North: 52 Ft., South: 52 Ft., East: 104 Ft., West: 104 Ft.) and totally measuring 5408 Sq. Ft, bounded on the:

East by	:	Plot No.7
West by	:	Plot No.5
North by	:	Remaining portion of Sy.No.54
South by	:	Road

BRIJESH M. SINGH
M/s ADVOCATES ADROIT
No.7 and 7/2, 2nd Floor, Surya Chambers, 1st Main, Seshadripuram, Bangalore-560020. 9844523401, consultbrijesh@gmail.com
Place: Bangalore Date: 25.04.2025

Open Tender Notice No. B-E29-TRD-TNDR-04-2025-26 dt:24.04.2025

PUB/0456

Tenders are invited in IREPS by the undersigned for the following works.

Tender No. : B-E29-TRD-TNDR-04-2025-26 **Name of Work** : BZA Division - Replacement of rusted Anti creep Wire in BZA division **Approx. Value:** (₹) 28,10,350.80 **Completion period :** 12 Months **Bid Security (EMD) : (₹)** 56,200/- **Date of closing**: 16.05.2025 at 15:00 Hrs

S.No. 1 - **Cost of Tender from** : (₹)Nil

Sr. Divisional Electrical Engineer, TrD, Vijayawada
A0563

For further tender conditions / details and for downloading the tender documents, Please visit website at https://www.ireps.gov.in or www.scr.indianrailways.gov.in

PUBLIC NOTICE

The general public are hereby notified that my client **SHRUTHI KARANAM & ACHYUTA BURLI MADHUSUDAN RAO** intends to purchase the property bearing Flat bearing No. 004, Present BBMP EPID No. 1792178743, Ground floor, Block A-2, "PARAMOUNT PILATUS" constructed on the Converted land bearing Sy. Nos. 45/2 & 45/., BBMP Khatha No. 1358/Sy No. 45/2,45/3, situated at Arekere Village, Begur Hobli, Bangalore South Taluk, BENGALURU measuring 1165sq. ft of super built up area alongwith 495 sq.ft of undivided share, right, title and interest & ownership in the entire land measuring 3 acres 39 guntas with one Open car parking space in the basement and the entire land is bounded on the East by: Land bearing Sy. No. 85/1, West by: Arekere Road, North by: Land bearing Sy.No. 45/1 & 85/2, South by: Water Channel and 80 feet Road and Flat is bounded on the East by: Flat No. 001, West by: Setback, North by: Setback, South by: Flat No. 003 from the present owner B. PADMANABAN & P. NALINI. My client has noticed that the present owner B. PADMANABAN & P. NALINI has lost the last page of the Sale Deed, dated 18.10.2012 i.e, pages No. 17 (as per the Sale Deed numbering) and Pages No. 21 (as per Sub-Registrar numbering) and the said page contained the signature of the Vendors and the purchasers to the Sale Deed, dated 18.10.2012 along with the Witness. The present owner B. PADMANABAN & P. NALINI have lodged police complaint and also executed Affidavit stating that they have lost the original Page of the Sale Deed, dated 18.10.2012. The said Sale Deed, dated 18.10.2012 is registered in the office of the Sub-Registrar, Jayanagar, as No. JAY-1-03535/2012-13 and stored in C.D. No. JAYD155. As a caution my client notify to the general public that any one finds the Original pages of the Sale Deed, dated 18.10.2012, the same shall be submitted to the below mentioned address **within 15 days** on the receipt of this notice, failing which my client will proceed in purchasing the above mentioned property from B. PADMANABAN & P. NALINI by availing a loan from Union Bank of India.

M.R. RAJINI, Advocate
No. 31, 1st A Cross, Doraisanipalya, B.G. Road, BENGALURU-560 078. (M) 9535982832,
E Mail:rajiniraju16@gmail.com

CHAMARAJANAGAR INSTITUTE OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

(An Autonomous Institute of Govt of Karnataka)
Sy. No:124, Yadapura Village, Kasaba Hobli, Chamarajanagar-571313.
E-Mail : directorcimscrnagara@gmail.com Tel: 08226-226701,
Website: https://cimscrnagara.karnataka.gov.in

No. CIMS/Tender/Drugs/Cat.A1/164/2024-25 **Dated: 19.04.2025**

TENDER NOTIFICATION

The Tender has been invited as per Karnataka Transparency in Public Procurement Act 1999 Rule 2000 for the supply of Drugs / Surgicals (Category - A1) to the teaching hospitals of this Institution. Interested Tenderers are informed to apply the tender on or before Dated: 26.05.2025 at 5.00 pm by paying E.M.D.

If, the last date for submission of tender declared as Government Holiday, the next working day shall be treated as last date. No separate Notification in this regard will be issued. Interested tenderers may contact the college authorities for furthers information.

Sd/-
Dean and Director,
Chamarajanagara Institute of Medical Sciences, Chamarajanagar.

DIPR: CHANAGAR: 30:2025-26

punjab national bank

Circle Sastra : No.26-27, Raheja Towers, (I Floor), M.G. Road, Bangalore-560001. e-mail : cs8191@pnb.co.in

NOTICE U/S 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI)

Credit Facilities availed by M/S Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited (Borrower).

You, **M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited** have availed the various credit facilities by way of financial assistance against various assets by the Consortium of Banks (hereinafter called 'the Consortium') consisting of **1) Punjab National Bank , LCB Branch, Bangalore 2)Central Bank of India, Corporate Finance Branch ,Bangalore 3) Union Bank of India (erstwhile Corporation Bank), Kalaburagi Branch 4) The Karnataka State Co-operative Apex Bank Ltd Bangalore .**

The Limit Availed and Outstanding balance in the accounts as on **31.01.2025** from consortium are as under:

1. PUNJAB NATIONAL BANK:

Name of Lender	Type of Facility	Sanctioned (Rs.)	Outstanding as on 31.01.2025 (Amount in Rupees)		
			Principal (A)	Overdue Interest (B)	Total (A+B)
Punjab National Bank	CC (Hyp) (2273008700000478)	8,00,00,000	0	22	22
	TL – 1 (227300IC00001551)	38,00,00,000	10,42,12,151	10,81,28,673	21,23,40,825
	TL – II (227300IC00002116)	6,60,00,000	5,33,53,388	3,69,46,110	9,02,99,497
	TL – III (227300IC00002125)	25,40,00,000	23,77,82,705	21,36,60,640	45,14,43,345
	Charges				61,87,612
	Total	78,00,00,000	39,53,48,244	35,87,35,445	76,02,71,301

2. CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA :

Name of Lender	Type of Facility	Sanctioned (Rs.)	Outstanding as on 31.01.2025 (Amount in Rupees)		
			Principal (A)	Overdue Interest (B)	Total (A+B)
Central Bank Of India	TERM LOAN-AC 3173673182	19,00,00,000	4,39,99,161	5,92,28,660	10,32,27,821
	TERM LOAN-AC 3600168303	3,30,00,000	2,01,25,569	2,54,65,852	4,55,91,421
	TERM LOAN-AC 3600199580	12,70,00,000	10,83,27,068	13,05,20,153	23,88,47,221
	Total	35,00,00,000	17,24,51,798	21,52,14,665	38,76,66,463

3. UNION BANK OF INDIA:

Name of Lender	Type of Facility	Sanctioned (Rs.)	Outstanding as on 31.01.2025 (Amount in Rupees)		
			Principal (A)	Overdue Interest (B)	Total (A+B)
Union Bank of India	TERM LOAN	28,50,00,000	7,08,00,325	5,04,00,095	12,12,00,419
	Total	28,50,00,000	7,08,00,325	5,04,00,095	12,12,00,419

4.THE KARNATAKA STATE CO-OPERATIVE APEX BANK LTD BANGALORE :

Name of Lender	Type of Facility	Sanctioned (Rs.)	Outstanding as on 31.01.2025 (Amount in Rupees)		
			Principal (A)	Overdue Interest (B)	Total (A+B)
The KSC Apex Bank Ltd.	TERM LOAN - A/c No.59	10,00,00,000	3,38,59,908	2,65,18,882	6,03,78,790
	TERM LOAN - A/c No.81	6,60,00,000	5,16,16,051	4,20,47,950	9,36,64,001
	TERM LOAN - A/c No.82	25,40,00,000	24,08,97,288	20,24,15,541	44,33,12,829
	Total	42,00,00,000	32,63,73,247	27,09,82,373	59,73,55,620

1. Total amount Due as on **31.01.2025** is **Rs. 186,64,93,802/- (Rs. One Hundred Eighty Six Crore Sixty Four Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Two only)** with further interest and charges until payment in full (hereinafter referred to as "secured debt").

2. Due to non-payment of installment/interest/principal debt, the account/s has/have been classified as Non Performing Asset on **30.09.2020** by PNB, on **31.03.2021** by Union Bank of India, on 29.02.2020 by Central Bank of India, and on **01.06.2020** by The Karnataka State Co-Operative Apex Bank as per Reserve Bank of India guidelines.

To secure the outstanding under the above said facilities, you along with mortgagors have, inter alia, created security interest in respect of the following properties/assets:

A. Primary Security : The Hypothecated Assets:

> A first charge by way of Equitable Mortgage of factory land measuring 100 Acres of land at Village Bajolga, Bhalki Taluka, Bidar District, Karnataka and the building / Plants constructed thereon.
> A first charge by way of hypothecation of all the movables assets including movable plant & machinery, machinery spares, tools and accessories, furniture, fixtures (excluding vehicles) and all other movable assets of the company, present and future pertaining to the project.
> Assignment of all project contracts, documents, insurance policies, rights titles permits/approvals, clearances and interest etc., of the company pertaining to the project.
> Assignment of all the company's rights and interest under Letter of Credit, Guarantee or Performance Bond provided by any party of any project contract in favor of the company pertaining to the projects.
> A first charge on the Trust & Retention Account, Debt Service Reserve Account and other reserves and any other bank accounts of the Company wherever maintained in respect of the Project.
> Out of 100 acres, 99 acres and 16 guntas has been mortgaged and for balance 0.6 acres (24 Guntas), our bank obtained cash collateral of Rs.6.00 Lakh in the form of FD (i.e. FD No.227300DP00002680) being equivalent realizable value as per valuation report.

The details of mortgaged securities are as under:

S. NO.	Security Description	Area (Acre=A / Guntas=G)	Ownership
1.	Land bearing Sy No. 82/1 situated at Village Bajolga, Taluk :Bhalki Dist, Karnataka.	5 A 25 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
2.	Land Sy. No.82/2 at Village Bajolga	03 A 12 G out of 09 A 38 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
3.	Land Sy. No.82/2 at Village Bajolga	03 A 13 G out of 09 A 38 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
4.	Land Sy. No.82/2 at Village Bajolga	03 A 13 G out of 09 A 38 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
5.	Land Sy. No. 84/2 situated at Village Bajolga Taluq Balki	06 A 25 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
6.	Land Sy. No. 84/1A situated at Village Bajolga Taluq Balki	02 A 23 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
7.	Land Sy. No. 84, Hissa No1C and land Sy .No 84/2 both situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq:Bhalki , having the two lands each.	3 A 21 G & 1 A 17 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
8.	Land Sy. No.84 ,Hissa No.2 situated at Village Bajolga, Taluk, Bhalki	2 A 26 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
9.	Land Sy. No 84/3 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	02 A 05 G out of 07 A 32 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
10.	Land Sy. No 84/3 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	02 A 30 G out of 07 A 32 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
11.	Land Sy. No 84/3 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	02 A 37 G out of 07 A 32 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
12.	Land Sy. No 84/4 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	03 A 31 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
13.	Land Sy. No 84/5 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	00.21 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
14.	Land Sy. No 84/6 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	01 A 06 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
15.	Land Sy. No 85/6A situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	3 A 1 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
16.	Land Sy. No 85/1 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	1 A 20 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
17.	Land Sy. No 85/2 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	1 A 03 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
18.	Land Sy. No 85/3B situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	02 A 21 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
19.	Land Sy. No 85/4 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	1 A 28 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
20.	Land Sy. No 85/5 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	01 A 16 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
21.	Land bearing Sy. No. 83/1 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk :Balki ,Dist:Bidar	02 A 27 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
22.	Land bearing Sy. No. 83/2 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk :Balki ,Dist:Bidar	02 A 26 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
23.	Land Sy. No. 84/1/AP situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	01 A out of 01 A 15 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
24.	Land Sy No.56 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluq Bhalki	02 A out of 09 As and 39 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
25.	Land bearing Sy. No. 71/1 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk: Bhalki, Dist: Bidar ,Karnataka	07 A 05 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
26.	Land bearing Sy. No. 71/1 situated at Village Bajogla Taluk :Bhalki ,Dist:Bidar	06 A	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
27.	Land bearing Sy. No. 81/1 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk:Bhalki ,Dist:Bidar.	02 A 34 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
28.	Land bearing Sy. No. 81/2 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk :Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	02 A 37 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
29.	Land bearing Sy. No. 82/3 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk:Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	09 A 12 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
30.	Land bearing Sy. No. 82/3 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk:Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	28 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
31.	Land bearing Sy. No. 82/3 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk:Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	2 A 13 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited
32.	Land bearing Sy. No. 82/6 situated at Village Bajolga ,Taluk: Bhalki ,Dist:Bidar.	3 A 07 G	M/s Bhalkeshwar Sugars Limited

B. Collateral Security:

S. NO.	Security Description	Area in SqM or Sq Ft or SqY	Ownership
1.	Land bearing Sy No. 151/2, situated at proper Bhalki, Bhalki Taluk, Bidar District,Karnataka	02 Acres, 35 Guntas	Sri Prasanna Khandre.
2.	Land bearing Sy. No. 53, Boraj Tal - Maval, Dist: Pune within the limits of Grampanchayat Boraj.	62.5 Ares out of Gat No.156	Mr. Dattatraya Dhondiba Pawar
3.	Property bearing H. No. 5-35/144-A (Old #5-36/11) on Plot No. 111, in Survey No. 394, 395 & 396 at Prashanth Nagar, Kukatapally, GHMC Hyderabad .	300 Sq. Yards	Mr. Uttamchand Sethiya
4.	Land Survey No. 53/1-A, situated at Ghorpadi, Pune within the limits of Pune Municipal Corporation and within Sub Registration of District of Haveli ,Dist: Pune together with the building admeasuring 112.88 Sq. Mtrs.	7.5 Acres	Mr. Kalpana Dattatraya Pawar.
5.	Land out of Survey No. 34/1A/2/1/1 situated at Village Manjari Budruk and within the Sub-Registration of Haveli District, Pune.	04 Ares	Mr. Pradnya D Pawar
6.	Land out of Survey No. 34/1A/2/1/1 situated at Village Manjari Budruk, and within the Sub Registration of Haveli District, Pune.	18 Ares	Mr. Dattatraya Dhondiba Pawar
7.	Site No.103 in Survey No.10 & 11 of KHB Colony Guller Haveli Bidar Extension.	134.75 Square Meters	Mr. Rachappa Basavannapa Patil
8.	House Plot No.TMC.5-1-35/1 situated at Gunj Market Site, Bhalki.	1800 Sq Ft	Mr. Rachappa Basavannapa Patil
9.	House bearing TMC No.4-6-49 (old) and its New No.4-6-59 (New) consisting of 8 RCC rooms in 1st floor and 8 RCC rooms in II Floor situated at Khandre Gali, Gunj Area Bhalki, Taluk Bhalki.	2400 Sq Ft	Mr Jagadish C Khandre.
10.	Residential Flat No. D in Ground Floor, Sujana Enclave, TD No. 2, Open Plot No.32 located in the approved layout of Survey No.48/2-D, situated at Gullar Haveli, Bidar.	216 Sq Meters	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
11.	Open Plot No.4 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East–West : 50 Ft and North-South 30 Ft total 1500 Sq Ft.	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
12.	Open Plot No.7 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 Ft on Northern side, East-West 50 Ft on Southern side, North–South 47 Ft East and North–South 32 towards West	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
13.	Open Plot No.8 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 58 feet towards North and East-West 53 feet towards south, North-South 35 feet	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
14.	Open Plot No.9 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 60 feet total 2400 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
15.	Open Plot No.10 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 60 feet total 2400 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
16.	Open Plot No.13 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 60 feet total 2400 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
17.	Open Plot No.14 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 60 feet total 2400 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
18.	Open Plot No.15 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 60 feet total 2400 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
19.	Open Plot No.16 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 30 feet total 1200 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
20.	Open Plot No.17 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 40 feet and North-South 30 feet total 1200 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
21.	Open Plot No.18 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 feet and North-South 30 feet total 1500 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
22.	Open Plot No.19 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 feet and North-South 30 feet total 1500 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
23.	Open Plot No.20 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 feet and North-South 40 feet total 2000 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
24.	Open Plot No.21 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 feet and North-South 40 feet total 2000 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
25.	Open Plot No.22 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 feet and North-South 30 feet total 1500 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
26.	Open Plot No.23 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar.	East-West 50 feet and North-South 30 feet total 1500 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
27.	Open Plot No.24 to 28 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	East-West 40 feet and North-South 60 feet total 2400 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
28.	Open Plot No.32 to 37 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	East-West 30 feet and North-South 40 feet total 1200 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre
29.	Open Plot No.40 to 46 situated at "Bhalkeswar Colony" Bhalki Town Taluk Bhalki, Dist:Bidar	East-West 30 feet and North-South 40 feet total 1200 sq ft	Prasanna Prakash Khandre

C. A First Charge by way of hypothecation of all the immovable assets including movable plant and machinery ,machinery spares ,tools and accessories ,furniture ,fixtures (excluding vehicles) and all other movable assets of the company ,present and future. (For Term Loan phase 1 & phase 2 project)

D. Hypothecation / Pledge of Sugar and Hypothecation of all other current asset include raw materials, stock in process and book debts arising out of genuine trade transactions on Pari–passu basis with other working capital bank.

We hereby call upon you to pay the amount of Rs. 186,64,93,802/- (Rs. One Hundred Eighty Six Crore Sixty Four Lakh Ninety Three Thousand Eight Hundred and Two only) with further interest and charges at the contracted rate until payment in full within 60 days (sixty days) from the date of this notice. In default, besides exercising other rights of the Consortium as available under Law, the Consortium is intending to exercise any or all of the powers as provided under Section 13(4) of the Securitisation and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act"). The details of the secured asset/s intended to be enforced by the Consortium, in the event of non-payment of secured debt by you, are as mentioned above.

1. Your attention is hereby invited to provisions of sub-section (8) of section 13 of the Act in respect of time available to you to redeem the secured assets.

Please take notice that in terms of section 13(13) of the said Act, you shall not, after receipt of this notice, transfer by way of sale, lease or otherwise (other than in the ordinary course of business) any of the secured assets above referred to without prior written consent of the Consortium. You are also put on notice that any contravention of this statutory injunction/restraint, as provided under the said Act, is an offence.

If for any reason, the secured assets are sold or leased out in the ordinary course of business, the sale proceeds or income realised shall be deposited/remitted with/to the Consortium. You will have to render proper account of such realisation/income.

"We reserve our rights to enforce other secured assets."

Please comply with this demand under this notice and avoid all unpleasantness. In case of non-compliance, further needful action will be restored to, holding you liable for all costs and consequences.

This notice is issued without prejudice to the Consortium taking legal action before DRT/Court as the case may be.

It is also informed that we hereby withdraw the demand notice U/S 13(2) of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest Act 2002 (SARFAESI) issued on 13.05.2024.

Date : 26.04.2025
Place : Bangalore

For Punjab National Bank
Chief Manager and Authorised Officer